

Labour poll pledge hints at year's rent freeze

By Richard Evans

The Labour Party launched its campaign for next month's local government elections yesterday with a carefully worded pledge hinting at a year-long rent freeze for council and private tenants if the party wins the next general election.

In a statement read out on behalf of Mr Michael Foot, the Labour leader said that an incoming Labour government would "immediately make it clear to local authorities that it does not expect any increase in council rents in the first year and that for housing subsidy and rate support grant purposes it will be assumed that no such increase will be made".

Mr Frank Allau, the party's housing committee chairman, expanded on Mr Foot's statement and said it meant that the next Labour government would announce a one year freeze on the rents of council and private landlord tenants. Mr Allau said the new policy would affect nine million families and would cost £300m, given the present rate of inflation.

But Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment in the

Commons, was more cautious and said that any freeze would have to be set within the context of the party's financial policy for its housing programme.

Mr Kaufman has been fighting behind the scenes to prevent a rent freeze pledge being given, so that there is more cash for a future Labour government's housing construction programme.

Despite his opposition, Labour's national executive committee is almost certain to back a recommendation from its home policy committee which says a future Labour government should immediately tell local authorities it did not expect any increases in rent for the first year.

Mr Allau said that legislation would be required to enforce the rent freeze on private landlords. Any local authority which decided to increase rents would find itself in "financial difficulties".

In his local election campaign message, Mr Foot said the Conservatives wanted to turn local councils into compliant and subservient creatures "on the basis that

central government knows what is best for each area and how much should be spent by every council".

He added: "The only way to resist is to oust Tory councillors in their hundreds and replace them with Labour councillors committed to local involvement and local decision-making as the best way of providing valued public services".

Mr Kaufman said the local elections were about defending ratepayers, local council services and jobs. He accused Conservative councils of actively collaborating in reducing and damaging services.

"The Liberal and Social Democrat candidates offer a different policy for every street in every ward and when they come together in a town hall, if they do, they will be unable to administer a local authority coherently", he said.

Mr Walter Brown, Labour's assistant national agent, said yesterday that the party was contesting more seats than any other party in the country (the Press Association reports).

In England, Labour was putting up 4,581 candidates for 4,789 seats.

Boycott of three-way talks urged by unions

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Perth

The threat of a TUC boycott of bodies that bring together unions, employers and the Government resurfaced yesterday, as Scottish trade unions drew up plans for opposing the Norman Tebbit's labour law reforms.

A motion bringing together the policies of left-wing and moderate unions retains the Scottish miners' proposal that the labour movement "should end collaboration on tripartite bodies where government policy is promoted".

This hardline attitude, which is expected to be approved by the TUC conference in two days' time, is likely to embarrass the TUC nationally.

The TUC General Council has, with some reluctance, shelved the threat of pulling out of tripartite bodies such as the National Economic Development Council and the Manpower Services Commission. Mention of that tactic was deliberately omitted from the strategy of opposition to the Employment Bill adopted at the special Wembley conference two weeks ago.

It is clearly now back on the agenda, and as the STUC tends to set a militant pace for other trade union gatherings, it is evident that an even tougher boycott of the law and the Government will emerge from the September TUC Congress in Brighton.

The composite motion proposed by Mr Clive Jenkins, Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, pledges vigorously to oppose any new legislation in the trade union field and calls on all unions to maintain their policy of non-cooperation with existing laws.

It also urges that financial, industrial and "any other appropriate support" should be given to unions that become victims of Mr Tebbit's new legislation.

It concludes that "only militant resistance to the application of and-trade union law including the use of industrial action will succeed and calls on the general council to mobilize with rallies, demonstrations and coordinated industrial action on local and national levels".

This message was re-issued last night at an STUC "fringe" meeting, when Mr Michael Costello, industrial organizer of the Communist Party, said: "Anti-union legislation and incomes policies, whether called the social contract or by any other name, are two sides of the same coin."

"We must now go all out to bust the Tories' wages curbs and make clear that restrictions on collective bargaining cannot be negotiated with the Labour Party either."

□ The Wales TUC has specifically excluded wage restraint in a document on economic recovery which will be discussed at its annual conference later this month. (Tim Jones writes).

The recommendation is justified by the statement that incomes planning could only form an element of a totally planned socialist economic system.

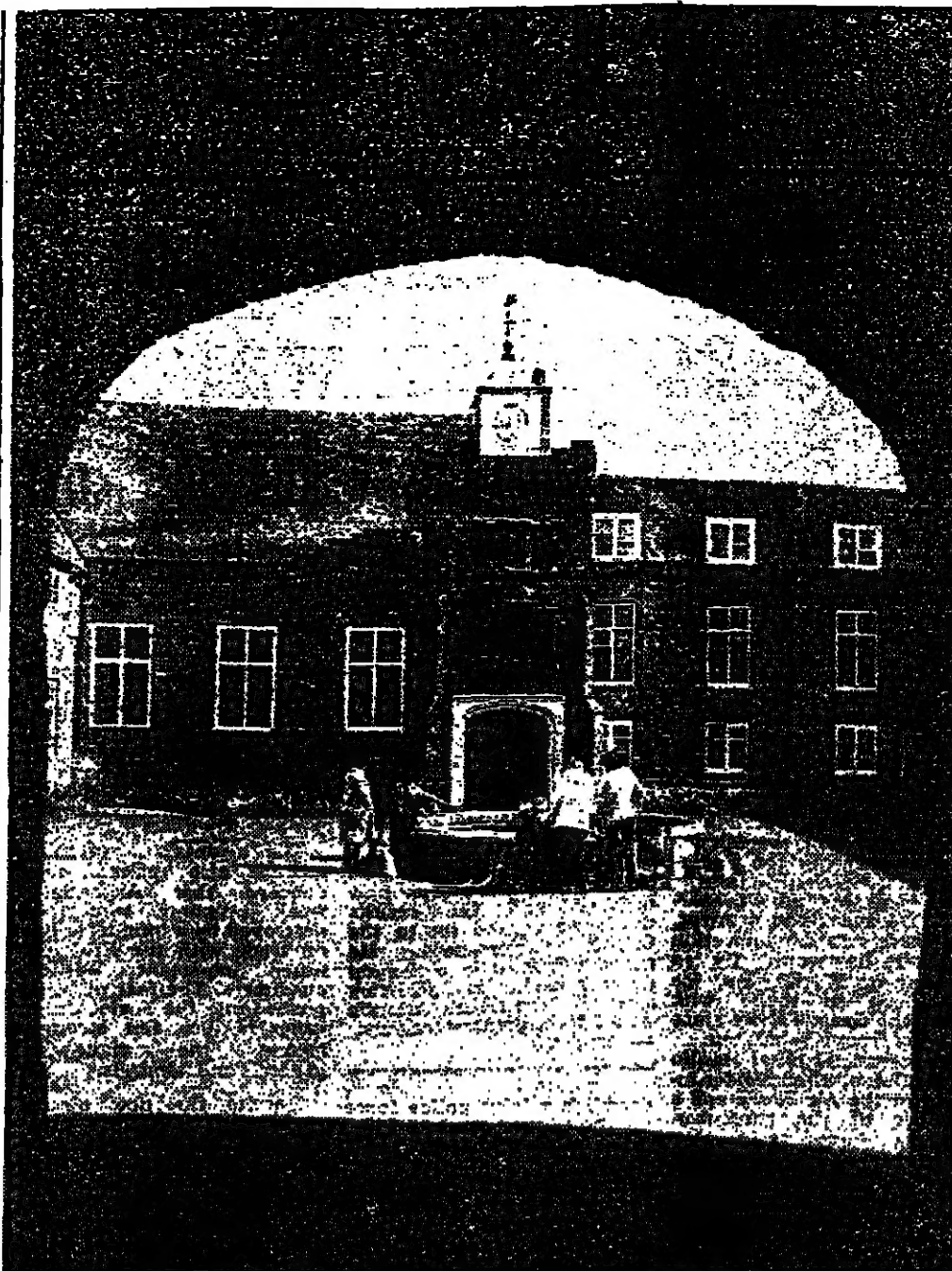
But, the document claims, legislation is needed to impose a national minimum wage set at two-thirds of the national average wage.

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Councillor Harley claimed that, although the Government had indicated that Strathclyde should make a £21m cut in education, the region had restricted the reduction to £12.5m.

Mr Duffy disclosed that, as a direct result of "loss of membership, loss of income from medicine or if necessary, the executive could not replace a retiring full-time official, a district secretary, in Hampshire."

The decision was a "clear indication of the union's financial problems", he added. In 1981 the union had paid out £1,741,382 in superannuation benefit, almost £1m in



Palace takeover planned at Putney

A courtyard at Fulham Palace, in west London, which residents near by are hoping to protect from being converted to offices or flats.

The residents, who announced their plans yesterday, believe that with the help of initial grants they could make the palace pay its way as a centre for exhibitions and concerts and by providing meeting rooms for community groups (our Environment Correspondent writes).

The palace and grounds by the Thames at Putney Bridge constitute one of the most important historic sites in the west of London. There is evidence of occupation from prehistoric and Roman times, and the site was bought by

the Bishopric of London more than 1,200 years ago. The palace was used as the residence of Bishops of London until 1973.

Mr Patrick Ground, QC, chairman of the Fulham Society and of the committee which is setting up the trust, said yesterday: "It is much more important historic building in the Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The advantage of our scheme is that it is the only one that ensures a large degree of public use. We believe that it can generate enough income to sustain itself."

The parts of the building which date from Tudor times have been given the highest grade of official historic building listing. An Ancient

Monuments Order has been laid to protect the remains of the nearby moat, which may date back to the Roman occupation.

Mr Ground's committee has the initial subsidy required to enable the proposed trust to run the property as a going concern with meeting rooms and catering facilities to offer at commercial rates. The plan includes acquiring from the Church Commissioners the freehold reversion of the palace and then accepting surrender of the council's lease held from the church.

Mr Ground would not disclose the likely cost of purchase, but said that the commissioners' income from the lease was small.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Parents to help pick senior staff

Parents will soon help to select teachers chosen for senior posts at Strathclyde schools, Councillor William Harley, chairman of the region's education committee, said in Glasgow yesterday.

At a Labour Party regional election press conference, he said that a parent chosen for a school council would be included by next year in any selection panel of eight councillors and head teachers. The parents would help to pick candidates for such posts as head teacher, deputy head and assistant head teacher.

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AUEW strike pay bill £5.5m in three years

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

Government policy is putting severe financial pressure on trade unions Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday. He told the union's national committee in Eastbourne that the Government had embarked on a policy of sapping the financial numerical strength of the trade union movement.

"Unfortunately they are succeeding," he added. The AUEW, which had sometimes been "described as a non-militant union," had in the last three years paid out more than £5.5m in dispute benefit.

It has in common with other unions, had its membership reduced as a result of unemployment. Membership is threatening to fall below one million for the first time in recent years. It fell from 1,166,512 at the end of 1980 to 1,024,317 at the end of 1981.

The combined general and superannuation funds held by the AUEW, Britain's second biggest union, also fell. During 1981 from £19,614,401 to £18,936,613.

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The decision was a "clear indication of the union's financial problems", he added. In 1981 the union had paid out £1,741,382 in superannuation benefit, almost £1m in

dispute benefit and its legal fees £1.3m.

Repeated by reports that Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, was under pressure from backbench Conservative MPs to bring in legislation to ensure that trade unionists have to "contract in" to paying the political levy, Mr Duffy said the Conservatives were now making "another attempt to reduce our financial strength."

It was "rubbish" for Conservatives to claim that the present system, under which members of most unions have to "contract out" if they want to stop paying a political levy, is unfair.

Mr Duffy also gave a warning while Labour has never had a better opportunity than at the present win-at election on the Conservatives' disastrous and mainly economic policies, "sally they are fighting far better against one another than against the Tories."

Labour should be preparing for the next general election, but it "will lose support nationwide if we give the next Labour Government insupportable targets."

Labour should seek "either with medicine or if necessary, the executive could not replace a retiring full-time official, a district secretary, in Hampshire."

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Science report

All is not well for Einstein's theory

By the Staff of "Nature"

An apparent breakthrough in measurements of the Sun has indicated that all may not be well with Einstein's general theory of relativity — Einstein's geometrical theory of gravity.

General relativity has been checked in a number of ways, and it is clearly nearly right — more accurate, for example, than Sir Isaac Newton's theory, which is superseded by the new measurements of the Sun indicate that the theory may still not be perfect.

Great attention, therefore, is being paid to the measurements, which were announced by Professor Henry Hill, of Tucson, Arizona, at a conference of the Royal Astronomical Society in Dublin.

Professor Hill has spent nearly two decades perfecting equipment to measure very precisely the diameter of the Sun, not as it appears in a matter as it sounds. In particular, if the Sun is not a perfect sphere, Einstein's prediction of the exact orbit of the planet Mercury (the nearest planet to the Sun) would be affected.

Since the Sun spins, it might be expected to be slightly flatter at the equator than at the poles, as centrifugal force flings out its equatorial mass. However, calculations show that if the Sun were spinning as a whole only as fast as it appears to spin on the surface (about once every 25 days) the distortion would not be enough to upset Einstein.

Nevertheless, the core of the Sun might be spinning faster than the exterior which is slowed down by the solar wind and the magnetic fields which link the Sun to interstellar space. Professor Hill's measurements show that this is the case, with the core spinning about four times as fast as the exterior.

And the calculated distortion of the Sun puts Mercury's orbit out of reach of Einstein. Professor Hill now believes that there is a "finite chance" that Einstein is wrong although he puts more weight on the possibility that the error lies in the measurements of Mercury's orbit, or that of the other planets which affect Mercury.

Making this statement, however, has cost Professor Hill a collaboration with Mr Douglas Gough, an astrophysicist at Cambridge University. The two were to produce a paper together, but Gough believes Hill is underestimating the uncertainties of his calculations of the internal solar rotation, and the data, however good, may be in itself.

Mr Gough has described certain aspects of Hill's calculations as "arbitrary". Professor Hill, however, counters that Gough's objections are "formal" and "pedantic".

Whatever the conclusions on this front, the new measurements are also exciting for quite a different reason. In fact they depend not on a measurement of the solar diameter itself, but on variations — oscillations — in that diameter.

These oscillations are believed to indicate whole-body vibrations of the Sun and they can tell astrophysicists something about the solar interior. Professor Hill claims to have measured these oscillations with unprecedented precision by a new technique, producing a "spectrum" of oscillations 100 times more detailed than before.

The conclusions about the internal rotation of the Sun, and the consequences for Einstein's theory, are only the first part of a story which should now begin to unfold.

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Ipswich: Alliance thirsts for Labour's political oasis

By Richard Evans

Ipswich is a political oasis for the Labour Party in a county traditionally dominated by Conservatism.

The town's borough council has been controlled by the Labour Party with a healthy majority since 1979, while neighbouring district authorities in Suffolk remain firmly in the grip of rural Tories. Since October 1974 Ipswich has returned to the habit of electing the county's only Labour MP.

The town's voters continue their custom of being the odd ones out by taking part in the local government elections on May 6 while the rest of Suffolk's electors stay at home. A third of the council's 48 seats are being contested by 51 candidates. Labour, with a two-to-one majority on the council, is defending 10 seats while the Conservatives have five councillors seeking re-election.

Local government in the town is an exclusive preserve for the two main political parties, with no Liberal councillors and no defections to the Social Democratic Party. With Labour certain to retain control of the council, the spotlight is likely to focus on the performance of the Alliance, which is fielding candidates in all 16 wards.

Little has been seen or heard of the SDP in Ipswich since it was established there last June, while the local Liberal organization is in the process of being rejuvenated after a spell on the doldrums.

The Ipswich elections will show what impact, if any, the Alliance has on an area not renowned for political extremes and where the style of Labour leadership is acknowledged by political opponents to be moderate.

The outcome is difficult to predict. The Alliance is the big unknown — even to itself. There is also a streak of perverseness among Ipswich voters which saw them go against the national swing towards Thatcherism in May 1979 and double the parliamentary majority of their Labour MP, Ken Weetch, to nearly 4,000.

Labour, led on the council

by Mr Jamie Cann, a school teacher, aged 35, appears genuinely confident of doing well. It is campaigning on its record in power with the slogan "Let's be proud of our town. Labour is improving Ipswich."

It boasts a record of no cuts in services, rate rises below the level of inflation and claims to have improved Ipswich "by prudent management".

Mr Cann, who prefers his party's style to be described as progressive rather than moderate, points in particular to his authority's housing record, what he calls "greening" of derelict sites, the improved bus services and the provision of sports facilities including an athletics track of international standard and two sports halls. "We take pride in that," he says.

Like her SDP partners, Ms Miernick is confident of Alliance candidates making a breakthrough and will be bitterly disappointed if they do not. "Personally, I would sob," she says.

Ipswich has not been a happy hunting ground for Conservatives in recent years. Mr John Shorten, leader of the Conservative group on the council for the past year, says he will be very happy if his party retains the seats it holds.

Conservative tactics are encapsulated in his view of Labour's record which he describes as "spend, spend, spend". He is critical of the subsidy for the town's bus service, which he says is £125m, and the cash spent on improving derelict sites.

But the main weapon used against Labour will be its decision to start building two swimming pools in Crown Street which will cost £16m over 21 years. In 1979 the town's citizens, rejected in a referendum a plan for a sports complex on the site.

"We are committed to keeping the rates down so there will be no increased burden on householders, industry or commerce, and no loss of jobs. We know it is possible, we have done it before," Mr Shorten says.

Mr Shorten believes the Alliance poses little threat to Conservative support. "Unless I misjudge the climate the Alliance will have no effect at all, because they have no experience in local government."

Tomorrow: Lothian.

LOCAL ELECTIONS

In a clear reference to the Alliance, he adds: "People talk about community politics. The Ipswich Labour Party has been dealing in community politics for the last 10 years and people don't forget things like that."

The SDP and the Liberals have produced a joint manifesto which concentrates more on promoting the Alliance as a political alternative, than on local issues. But they favour decentralization, greater consultation and more accessibility to council affairs, especially where housing and planning are involved.

Mr Keith Pettican, one of the SDP's most prominent candidates, agrees that his party has been quiet locally but says that is because its energies have been concentrated on setting up an organization "and that will show now".

So far I will be disappointed if the SDP does not get half of its eight candidates elected. We are looking to get a sufficient number of people on the council to form a base

on which we can build. We could be in for a great shock on May 6 for better or worse," Mr Pettican says.

Mrs Pat Miernick, Liberal prospective parliamentary candidate for Ipswich, is organizing the party's campaign and has been mainly responsible for arranging a potential Liberal revival.

"We are not prepared to base our campaign on attacking other parties. We think their records are enough to persuade quite a number of people in Ipswich to vote for the Alliance," she says.

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Michael Costello: Two sides of the same coin.

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Braden house raider jailed

Bernard Braden, the television personality, was clubbed unconscious and he and his wife Barbara Kelly were left tied up when masked raiders broke into their home, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

John Kelly, aged 23, of Adelaide Road, Camden, north London, was jailed for four years after admitting taking part in the Hampstead robbery in June 1978.

The three raiders escaped in the couple's car after taking cash and jewelry worth £10,000.

Shot boys are buried together

Three boys who died in an unexplained shooting incident were buried yesterday after a joint requiem mass at St Anne's Roman Catholic Church, Rock Ferry, Birkenhead, Merseyside.

Mark Otter and his identical twin Michael and his friend James McElroy died on Easter Sunday on a hillside in Snowdonia where they regularly stayed in holiday caravans.

Ford standstill

Production of Ford cars at Halewood on Merseyside was stopped yesterday by a strike over 18 men suspended in the body plant for refusing to work in a dispute over new procedures. Production of Escorts worth £44m was expected to be lost by this morning when talks to try to settle the dispute begin.

Civil disorder warning in West Midlands

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

West Midlands County Council said yesterday in its annual review on its structure plan that unless progress was made on urban regeneration "there is a real danger that civil disorder may recur, perhaps on an even grander scale".

It said that economic problems undoubtedly played a part in the 1981 urban disorders. "They were at least in part an expression of a deep-rooted inner city problem which has not been solved in spite of the efforts of government and local authorities in the 1970s."

The West Midlands, once the workshop of the world was facing its worst economic crisis. About 225,000 people, 16 per cent of the county's workforce, were without a job.

Girl sneezes her way to British record

By Our Medical Correspondent

Donna Griffiths, aged 12, has recently beaten another Midlands girl, Patricia Reay, aged 15, of Sutton Coldfield, for the title of Britain's longest sneezer.

Donna, Griffiths of Pashbury, Hereford and Worcester, has been sneezing for 15 months, but both girls have a long way to go to beat an American man who, it was reported two years ago, had been sneezing for 40 years.

Prolonged sneezing is comparatively rare in Britain, although it seems more common in the United States. One of the senior consultants at a London teaching hospital said he had seen only two cases. He believes that the commonest group to suffer are young girls.

It occurs in patients who have such sensitive nose linings that a very mild irritant will start the sneezing reflex, even the changes in humidity and temperature caused by sunlight will sometimes be enough. A vicious circle can be set up for the sneeze itself triggering off another bout.

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Inflation
in low

Protestants
clash
with Pope

By Michael Horan

Protestants and Catholics are engaged in a bitter dispute over the proposed new constitution for the Church of England. The dispute is centered on the role of the Pope in the new constitution. Protestants believe that the Pope should have no say in the constitution, while Catholics believe that the Pope should have a say. The dispute has led to a series of protests and demonstrations in London.

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Prior's assembly laws to be unveiled this week

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Legislation setting up Mr James Prior's elected assembly for Northern Ireland will be unveiled later this week amid indications of a distinct cooling in Anglo-Irish relations.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland will publish a short Bill which will amend certain sections of the 1973 Constitution Act despite official unionist demands that the Commons debate the White Paper outlining his development plans first.

Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionists, said his party would try to change the plan by tabling amendments when the Bill comes before the Commons.

He also indicated that leading MPs in the party, including himself and Mr Enoch Powell, MP for South Down, would consider contesting assembly elections if invited to stand by their local constituency associations.

Polling for the 78-seat assembly will be by proportional representation and is expected to take place in the first two weeks of October.

Politicians in Ulster wait to see whether the mainly Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party is going to contest the elections or go to the polls but boycott the assembly.

Mr Prior has made it clear that whatever their eventual decision he will go ahead with his plan.

"Naturally, I hope they are going to take part and I hope they have now had a chance to examine the White Paper," Mr Haughey's return to office was greeted with equanimity by the British who had worked well with him in the past and achieved a breakthrough in relations between the two countries in 1980.

Part of the reason for the different emphasis put on the Anglo-Irish process by the different governments, Dublin tends to view it as a precursor to unity or a definite move in that direction while the British accept that nothing substantial is about to change and that it

will deal mainly with matters outside serious contention.

However, it is clear that Mr Haughey is determined that the momentum by which he set great store when he was last prime minister will gather pace and he would like the parliamentary tier of the Anglo-Irish council to be set up sooner rather than later with clear functions on certain matters.

Two Irish Naval vessels and four aircraft scoured the Irish Sea today for signs of a submarine believed to have sunk a 70-foot fishing boat (the Press Association reports).

The five man crew of the £200,000 trawler *Sharelga* from Clogherhead, Lough, were picked up unhurt by sister ships after the *Sharelga* was hauled backwards at high speed for more than two miles before she capsized and sank.

The Ministry of Defence is investigating the incident, Mr Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent writes. A spokesman said that they had had no reports which would indicate that a Royal Navy boat was involved.

If indeed a submarine were involved, a British or an American boat would be the most likely culprit because of the relative proximity of their bases off the Clyde, in the Gareloch and Holy Loch.

Soviet submarines are also present from time to time attracted by the British and American bases, and the RAF and Royal Navy were tracking one in the Clyde approaches several weeks ago. That boat has now left the area.

Four men, arrested in the Irish Republic at the weekend after a terrorist murder near Ulster's border, appeared in a Dublin court yesterday. All four were charged at the city's anti-terrorist Special Criminal Court, with possessing and having control of explosives and will appear again on May 10.

anger in the republic whose government has branded his scheme as unworkable. It is being argued that his insistence on going ahead contradicts the White Paper, which says that no system of government can be imposed on either side of the community will work effectively.

In Dublin, Mr Prior is being viewed as a man in a hurry whose initiative is being undermined by his own political ambitions. There is further annoyance that there was little real consultation on the plan.

It was expected that the Anglo-Irish process, initiated by Mr Haughey in 1980, would have meant more detailed discussions and there is disappointment at what is seen as the "flattering" and "fairly empty" nature of the process at the moment. The 11 paragraphs in his White Paper concerning the two identities within Northern Ireland, are being dismissed as little more than worthy verbal statements.

Although personal relations between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Haughey, the new Taoiseach, are said to be cordial, Mr Prior's determination to go on with the British Government's plan is understood to have put something of a cloud over relations between the two countries. Plans are going ahead for the next summit between the two prime ministers which the Irish Government would like to be held in July.

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The Rev Christopher Hamel Cooke in the crypt of St Marylebone Parish Church.

Crypt may be medical centre

By Hugh Clayton Environment Correspondent

The dead are to be removed from a London crypt to make room for medical treatment of the living. Permission has been given for the transfer of 500 bodies from the crypt of St Marylebone parish church to a cemetery outside London. The last burial in the crypt was in the 1850s.

The Rev Christopher Hamel Cooke, the rector, said yesterday before launching a £1m restoration appeal that he hoped to use part of the crypt for a doctor's flat and surgery. The parish includes Harley Street.

The rector said that he wanted to start a unique partnership between medicine and the church in which patients would be able to receive physical treatment and spiritual comfort in the same building. "It is not our claim to be able to succeed where scientific medicine fails. The church ministers to the sick in partnership with the medical profession," he said.

Mr Hamel Cooke said that he knew of a doctor who was a lay reader and was eager to open the crypt surgery. "He will not ram religion down their throats," the rector said. The restoration plan for the early nineteenth century church includes purchase of a new organ for £100,000.

The church has a famous choir and is often used by the neighbouring Royal Academy of Music. The present decrepit organ was damaged by flooding 17 years ago and was originally built from two large organs.

Architects have advised the rector that some pieces of carved masonry have been so eroded that they constitute an increasing hazard to passers-by from falling fragments. Scaffolding was erected by the church yesterday for cleaning and replacement of the stone facings.

Britain to stage arts festival in New York

By Christopher Warman

The largest British arts festival to be held outside the United Kingdom is to take place in New York next spring and summer to celebrate the bicentenary of the signing of the peace treaty which ended the Revolutionary War of 1776-1783.

The huge project, "Britain Salutes New York," was announced simultaneously in New York and London yesterday. It will range from dance, theatre and visual arts to crafts and film at more than 50 venues in New York, and will be the city's first international arts festival.

The festival has been conceived and funded by British and American companies on both sides of the Atlantic, and \$2.5m (£1.2m) has been raised to finance it.

Among the exhibitions will be the Hans Holbein collection from Windsor Castle which the Queen has consented to lend abroad for the first time.

Paintings by John Constable and a definitive Henry Moore retrospective will be on show at the Metropolitan Museum, and the Royal Academy is sending an exhibition to the National Academy of Design.

The performing arts programme includes the Royal Ballet at the Metropolitan Opera House, and the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields at the Lincoln Center, and the Fires of London, Monteverdi Choir, London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Shakespeare Company and the London Contemporary Dance Company have been invited to participate.

Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy, who with Sir Claus Moser, chairman of the Royal Opera House, heads the British advisory committee for the festival, said yesterday: "On April 13, when the festival opens, New York will be treated to the most ambitious celebration of British arts, culture and life ever held outside the United Kingdom."

PC bitten as woman's furniture is seized

A woman was carried screaming from her home while a bailiff removed her furniture for a debt she did not owe, Inner London Crown Court was told yesterday.

Miss Angela Rhoden became violent as she tried to explain to the sheriff's officer and a policeman that the debt had nothing to do with her and bit a constable as she was dragged to a police station.

Rhoden, aged 21, a student of south London, was given a two-year conditional discharge after admitting causing actual bodily harm to Constable Stephen Harrington.

Mr Terence Munyard, for the defence, said the debt had been incurred by a man who gave her address without her permission. When he defaulted in his payments, a writ was issued against Rhoden's goods.

Mr Munyard said the thought of having all her property taken away for a debt she had nothing to do with caused her tremendous distress. She became increasingly upset and demanded that the men should leave. But the entire contents from her home were removed, even though Rhoden produced receipts to prove that the furniture was hers and not the property of the defaulter, who had never lived at that address.

Miss Edwina Mansell, for the prosecution, said the bailiff had tried to explain that she was obliged to execute the warrant issued by the High Court.

But Rhoden continued to behave violently and was told that if she did not calm down she would be arrested.

"She was carried bodily to the police station screaming and struggling."

Judge Bennett said: "I am prepared to accept that an extremely stressful situation. The writ was later rescinded and Rhoden's furniture returned."

Inflation 'punishes' 4m low-paid

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

More than four million full-time adult workers are having their standard of living further reduced because they are low paid, according to a report published today.

Because they spend more on essentials, including housing, fuel and transport, the low-paid experience higher inflation rates than other income groups.

By the end of last year, the living costs of the lowest-paid households had risen by 14% per cent, compared to the 12 per cent inflation rate recorded by the retail price index (RPI).

The gap between the poorest households and the rest is likely to get bigger, the report says, because rent and rates, fuel prices and fares are all increasing while falling interest rates will reduce the cost of living for the higher paid.

The report is published jointly by the Civil and Public Services Association and Low Pay Unit, which also produces a monthly low-pay price index to measure the impact of inflation on the lowest income groups.

Mr Chris Pond, director of the Low Pay Unit, said yesterday that 4,185,000 full-time adult workers were earning less than £28 a week. The gap was widening, he said, because wages were needed to give a family of two adults and two children the same income as their national entitlement on supplementary benefits, and it represents the official poverty line. The total included 175,000 non-industrial civil servants.

Unemployment among the young is rising faster than among adults in spite of falling wage rates over the past five years. That is shown in a new analysis published today by the Unemployment Unit.

The unit says the figures, drawn from official sources, disprove the belief that young people are pricing themselves out of jobs.

Between 1976 and 1981, hourly rates for males aged 21 fell from 55.8 per cent of adult rates to 54.7 per cent. Over the same period, the unemployment rate for young males increased by almost 60 per cent. Young women experienced an even higher increase in the unemployment rate over the same period, although their hourly rates fell from 55.7 per cent of the adult rate to 55.4 per cent.

The unit says the figures reinforce research findings of a Department of Employment of a Department of Employment of youth and adult earnings to youth unemployment during the 30 years from 1948 to 1978. That study said that variations in youth unemployment "do not appear to have any systematic relationship with changes in the relative earnings of young people."

Protestants and editor clash on anti-Pope rally

By Michael Horsnell

Leaders of the Protestant Reformation Society, which is organizing a rally in Trafalgar Square on May 29 against the Pope's visit, clashed yesterday with the editor of the *Church Times*, the leading Anglican newspaper, because he refused to publish a four-page inset advertising the rally.

The inset includes a cartoon attacking the Pope's visit and offers what its authors describe as an alternative view to the "unqualified welcome" the newspaper is giving to the papal visit.

About 15,000 copies have been distributed with the *Church of England Newspaper* and *The English Churchman*, both of which circulate among Anglican Evangelicals, and another 50,000 have been published by the society for private distribution and insertion in the *Church Times*.

Dr Derek Scates, the society's assistant general secretary and co-author of the inset, said: "This is a question of the paper's Anglo-Catholic ancestry showing through. The *Church Times* has already carried a British Council of Churches advertising feature welcoming the papal visit. I am very disappointed that a Church of England organization cannot now carry an alternative view."

Joint campaign to fight school vandals

From a Staff Reporter
Cardiff

Police and education authorities in south Wales launched a campaign yesterday to curb vandalism and destruction in schools which costs ratepayers hundreds of thousands of pounds a year. In extreme cases, whole classrooms have been destroyed by arson, and in other instances schools have been closed so that damage can be repaired.

The authorities hope that through the scheme called "operation schoolwatch", young people will be encouraged to keep watch over their schools during term and holiday time.

In mid Glamorgan the annual cost of vandalism is almost £500,000 and in south Glamorgan the repair bill this year will be about £65,000. South Glamorgan has already spent an additional £20,000 this year on security measures in schools.

In Gwent, where school vandalism has cost more than £250,000 in a five year period, children are offered rewards if their information leads to a successful prosecution.

Mr E. Curry-Jones, chairman of south Glamorgan's education committee, said the campaign was "not a snooping exercise." He added: "Money spent repairing vandalism means less available for school books and equipment."

Authority fights £15m sewer plan

The North West Water Authority may have to spend £15m to stop river pollution if local residents win a court battle (Our Manchester Correspondent writes).

Five householders brought summonses against the authority under the Public Health Act alleging that a stream which runs through south Manchester caused a statutory nuisance.

Mr Stephen Sauvain, for the residents, told Manchester city magistrates yesterday that a pumping station on the stream, which runs from Gorton to Chorlton, could not cope with the flow of sewage, so that the stream was filled with untreated sewage and in hot weather gave off an offensive smell.

The authority admitted the offences and faces a possible fine. It has started renovating the pumping station and is fighting a proposal by the residents who want it to build a new sewer which could solve the problem at a cost of £15m. The proposal could be included in a nuisance abatement order against the authority. The case continues.

Oxfam worker took coins

An Oxfam worker stole £60 worth of foreign coins which had been sent to a Blue Peter appeal to provide freshwater pipelines in Lesotho, a court heard yesterday.

Garry French, aged 19, of Orchard Way, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, admitted stealing the coins, which he was sorting at Oxfam's Bicester warehouse. He was fined £25 and ordered to pay £16.25 compensation.

Three colleagues who admitted receiving the coins were each fined £20 by Bicester magistrates.

Bail offence fine for Sophie Cordle

Miss Sophie Cordle, daughter of Mr John Cordle, the former Conservative MP for Bournemouth East, was fined £10 yesterday for failing to answer bail on a prostitution charge.

Miss Cordle, a secretary, aged 24, was arrested on a non-appearance warrant on Sunday. She spent the night in a police cell before appearing at Marlborough Street Court. She is charged with soliciting in Park Lane, Mayfair, on March 8.

Children die in house fire

Cary Grainger, aged five, and his sister Kathy, aged two, died after fire swept through their house in Cumbrian Gardens, Newton Aycliffe, co Durham, yesterday.

Mr David Grainger, their father, jumped from the blazing house just before firemen rescued his son Paul, aged 10 months.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Adventure recruits report in

The first group of young people to join the Government's military-style adventure training scheme reported for duty yesterday. About a dozen youths assembled at RAF Cosford, near Wolverhampton, to be fitted out for a fortnight's course in physical education. They begin their course in earnest today.

The initial number here is small because we are just getting the course organized. It is likely to increase to about 40 in the next few weeks, an RAF spokesman said.

Atlantic fares 'to stay level'

There will be no further rises in Atlantic air fares this year, Mr Edward Acker, chairman of Pan American World Airways, predicted in London yesterday. Fares could be expected to take their usual seasonal drop in October, but not by the 50 to 60 per cent by which tourist fares to the United States were cut last November, precipitating the collapse of Laker Airways. (Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent, writes).

Six face £26m fraud trial

Six men charged in connection with an alleged plot to defraud the Iranian Government in a £26m bogus arms deal, were yesterday sent for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

They included Benham Nodjoumi, aged 37, an Iranian company director and a former member of the late Shah's secret police, who was committed in custody from Marylebone Magistrates' Court. His five co-defendants were granted bail, totalling £32,000.

Heart man dies

Mr Clive Wagstaff, a miner, aged 45, of Waterloo Street, Bramley Vale, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire, has died at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge, nine days after undergoing a heart transplant operation.

Civil servants' 13% pay claim brushed aside

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Correspondent

The Government brushed aside the Civil Service unions' 13 per cent pay claim in the yesterday in the most uncompromising defence it has yet made of the use of market forces to determine public sector pay.

The Treasury told the Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal that the claim, which also seeks a minimum increase of £12.50 a week, would add nearly 15 per cent to the pay bill and cost more than £600m.

Its submission to the tribunal, chaired by Mr David Calcutt, QC, suggests that the Civil Service's current ability to recruit and retain staff "it could have been argued that no increase in pay was needed at all in the circumstances of 1982."

The Treasury, whose £170m offer ranges from nil to 5.5 per cent, said it acknowledges that there is a need to motivate staff and to deal with problems of keeping trained staff which, "while diminished", still exist.

The government team said, however, in its submission that evidence on retraining and recruitment of staff — which in some cases has doubled during 1981 — points to a need for "only a very moderate increase."

The Treasury submission rejects the union's demand for special help for the low paid and adds bluntly: "The Government does not consider that the pay of civil servants, or any other group should be determined by the needs of the individual. Pay is a matter for the market place and social needs are the province of the social security system."

Both sides believe that the tribunal, whose opening hearing in London yesterday was attended by about 200 militant civil servants, could report as soon as Friday.

Recourse to arbitration was provided for in the settlement which ended the 21-week strike of civil servants last year, though the Government made it clear that Parliament could be asked to override the tribunal's findings.

Mr William Kendall, general secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, told Mr Calcutt yesterday that a "facsimile" of the Government's market forces offer might "undermine" the union's position towards the present inquiry under Sir John Megaw into a future method of regulating service pay, and "prejudice their outcome."

The Treasury submission, drawn up by a team led by Mr Peter Le Cheminant, Under Secretary, says that if the tribunal follows the pattern of the past with a rate approach taking no

account of the difficulties of recruiting and retaining staff "there would be a growing mismatch between the pattern of pay rates and current management needs."

The tribunal is reminded in the Treasury evidence of the pay offers made to other public service groups, including those to the nurses and teachers and is told: "The pay settlement for the Civil Service could therefore have an economic importance extending well beyond its direct cost."

The Treasury said that the "realism" of its offer, which ranges from nothing for 65,000 civil servants to 5.5 per cent for 240,000 or nearly half the service, is "wholly compatible with the high regard in which the Government holds the performance of the civil service."

Mr Kendall told the tribunal yesterday that it had become the "custodian of industrial relations in the Civil Service." The union evidence said the 530,000 white collar civil servants were looking to the tribunal to prevent the unfair and discriminatory treatment implied by the offer.

The evidence points to the statement at a meeting with the union last April by Lord Sainsbury, then Lord President of the Council, that comparisons with outside pay "would naturally have a role to play" and that it was not the Government's intention to allow civil servants' pay to fall behind.

The unions claim that the present offer is a "denial" of comparability and accuses ministers of a "deliberate failure to honour government assurances" given in 1981 which, it says, formed much of the basis for ending the strike. The offer reflected "a crude attempt to divide and rule" by differentiating between groups.

The union evidence says that the offer would mean that civil servants would have seen their living standards decline between ten and 16 per cent over a two year period since April 1980.

The decision to award nothing to most staff under 21 on pay scales related to age is to reflect an "arbitrary view that young people are overpaid".

The Treasury, by contrast, says that the Government has heeded market forces and management factors including increased rewards for skill, experience, and responsibility, all of which factors are necessary for a "more efficient Civil Service." The Government also has a wider duty "not to spend more money than is necessary" as a vital contribution to the economic health and prosperity of the nation.



Former dancer is North's first black headmaster

Mr Carlton Duncan, who yesterday became the first black headmaster in the north of England, with some of his pupils at Wyke Manor Upper School in Bradford (Our Leeds correspondent writes).

Mr Duncan, who is 41 and Jamaican-born, came to Bradford from Coventry and had recently served on Lord Swan's committee of inquiry into the education of ethnic minorities. Ten per cent of

the pupils aged between 13 and 18 at Wyke Manor Upper School are black.

Mr Duncan was a professional dancer for 10 years before joining the teaching profession in 1972.

As he looked around the 1,000-pupil comprehensive school yesterday, many children and staff asked him about the health of his wife, Satinder, aged 24, who is expect-

ing test-tube twins in September. She became pregnant after receiving treatment at the Cambridge clinic of Mr Patrick Steptoe.

Mr Duncan said of his appointment yesterday: "I see this job as a challenge. At the moment, I am finding my way round and meeting everyone. I have some new ideas for the school which I shall consider when I have settled down."

Noise health warnings sought

By David Nicholson-Lord

Insurance companies' display advertisements may soon carry health warnings on the effects of noise, if a protest group's campaign succeeds.

The chairman of all Britain's leading insurers are being asked to include the warning, free of charge, on advertising and company literature.

The text, supplied by the Noise Abatement Society, says noise "can seriously damage your health" and adds: "Don't make unnecessary noise yourself. Don't accept it from others. There are laws against noise. Use them."

The society's appeal coincides with today's opening of the biennial congress of the International Association against noise in Vienna. There are expected to be strong protests there about the alleged failure of governments to legislate adequately on noise and about what are seen as unrealistic standards, particularly those for road vehicles, when they do.

The criticisms extend to Britain, despite laws enacted by many foreign campaigners. But Mr John Connel, chairman of the Noise Abatement Society, argues that urban conditions make nonsense of the 89 decibel standard for an ordinary lorry, based on a measuring point 7.5 metres away in open terrain.

The canyoning effect of a lorry going down a narrow London street where the farthest a pedestrian can retreat is a quarter or half the distance means the noise pressure can be increased by a factor of 10", he said yesterday.

The Society says it has approached insurance companies because they would benefit most immediately from reduced claims for serious and entirely unforeseen rate of decline.

The society's other zoo, Whipsnade, also suffered despite its lavish fiftieth anniversary celebrations. Visitors there were 2 per cent down in 1981. The decline is blamed on the recession and poor weather.

The society reported an operating loss of £152,000 last year, but Lord Zuckerman, the president, said a survey at the weekend still a favorite family outing. He pointed to recent surveys showing the two zoos

are still popular. A poll of 263 south-east households showed that in 25 per cent of the homes at least one person had visited a zoo in the last three years.

In another survey of 1,000 homes around Britain the figure was one in seven. This indicated that parents still considered taking their children to the zoo an essential part of their education, he said.

Lord Zuckerman admitted that higher entrance charges could have priced zoos out of the market, but confirmed that the Government had agreed to a big grant to help the society through its difficulties.

He dismissed claims that wildlife programmes on television had killed the public's appetite for seeing animals in zoos.

Questions are to be asked in Parliament about road works which are so noisy that Derby environmental

Surprise choice as principal

By Diana Gaddes, Education Correspondent

Dr William Taylor, director of the London University Institute of Education for the past nine years, is the university's unexpected choice for the much-sought-after post of principal, the chief administrative and financial officer of London University.

His appointment, in succession to Mr Hamish Stewart who retired in July 1981 after five years in the post, is not expected to be announced before the next meeting of the university senate at the end of this month.

As principal, Dr Taylor, who is 51 and who until now has spent his whole career in teaching, will be responsible for an annual budget of £200m.

The post, which is considered crucial to the university's future, attracted some unexpected and distinguished candidates including Mr Geoffrey Crosse, former registrar of Oxford University and now Secretary of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals. Mr Dudley Fiske, chief education officer of Manchester, and Mr Geoffrey Lockwood, registrar of Sussex University.

Dr Taylor, 51, is a former teacher and has been at the Institute of Education since 1972. He was previously at the University of London, where he was a senior lecturer in education.

Dr Taylor's appointment is seen as a surprise because he is not a member of the university senate and has not been involved in the university's recent restructuring.

Dr William Taylor: budget of £200m a year

Yorkshire seeks US help on the buses

From Ronald Kershaw, Wakefield

American consultants are to study West Yorkshire's public transport system and suggest a cost-cutting programme which will not affect services.

Mr John Ginnell, the county council leader, said the study would have national implications, bearing in mind the House of Lords judgement which led to the doubling of fares in London. Government plans to cut spending on bus subsidies and the problems of public transport elsewhere in Britain.

The first phase of the study will cost £122,000, less than a quarter of 1 per cent of this year's subsidy.

The company Booz, Allen and Hamilton, already has a team of nine men in South Yorkshire and will produce the first reports in July. A decision on whether to extend the study will be taken after that.

The company has recently completed similar studies in Chicago, Philadelphia and New York. Mr Ginnell said the United States had more experience than Britain of serious transport decline and by drawing on it West Yorkshire could be five years ahead of the rest of the country in its approach to public transport problems.

There is no Midas touch in public transport, but this major study, coupled with public consultation, will make us the most forward-looking passenger transport authority in the country."

Mr Ginnell said the Government's expectation that fares should provide a high proportion of running costs had led to a cycle of decline in which fare increases were followed by passenger losses and reductions in service.

In West Yorkshire the system has buckled from 1975 and 1980 there were three fare increases. There had been fewer passengers and fewer services.

He said the Labour administration had inherited a huge deficit when it took over last year. Since then it had taken a series of measures to support the buses, including denying a supplementary rate and the number of passengers was now increasing.

When decisions were made, public transport in West Yorkshire would continue to cost the ratepayers a great deal of money. It was in everybody's interest that all possible savings were considered.

Anti-oil slick squadron set up for £780,000

Government plans to fight a chemical war against oil pollution, announced British costs were announced yesterday.

The Department of Trade's Marine Pollution Control Unit, which is responsible for dealing with oil slicks, is setting up a squadron of eight aircraft based in Scotland and England on permanent standby. They can be airborne at 30 minutes' notice by day and in two hours at night.

Rear Admiral Michael Stacey, the unit's director, said yesterday that the bases were at Southend, Exeter, West Freugh near Stranraer and Kildale. The aircraft to be used are six British Normant Islanders, DC3s which have been adapted for low level spraying of chemicals.

The Southend-based crop spraying firm of Harvest Air Limited will operate the aircraft. The annual cost of the service will be £780,000.

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The return is free of all UK income tax (including investment income surcharge) and capital gains tax.

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If you need to cash in the new Certificate before the full 5 years this usually takes about a week.

The interim rates — once you have held the Certificate for 12 months — are still good. Get full details from the leaflet at post offices or banks.

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24th Issue

National Savings Certificates

Slump in zoo visitors as society loses £1m

The number of visitors to Regent's Park Zoo, in London, dropped by 21 per cent as the London Zoological Society lost more than £1m last year, it is revealed today.

The drop in the number of visitors is described in the society's annual report as a serious and entirely unforeseen rate of decline.

The society's other zoo, Whipsnade, also suffered despite its lavish fiftieth anniversary celebrations.

Visitors there were 2 per cent down in 1981. The decline is blamed on the recession and poor weather.

The society reported an operating loss of £152,000 last year, but Lord Zuckerman, the president, said a survey at the weekend still a favorite family outing.

He pointed to recent surveys showing the two zoos are still popular. A poll of 263 south-east households showed that in 25 per cent of the homes at least one person had visited a zoo in the last three years.

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Architecture

Terminal orthodoxy at the Barbican

By Charles McKean, Architecture Correspondent

The great and glorious Barbican, the Centre for the Arts, has never before been given the chance to design an airport terminal, but among their buildings are some of the finest designs of the '50s and '60s. Yet it surely would be easier to find your way to your flight in an airport than it is to your destination in the Barbican Arts Centre.

The foyer area consists of a concentration of great staircases, in relatively short flights of deep carpet, differentiated one from the other solely by the design of whatever housing to modern sculpture they have designed to suspend from the ceiling above.

It is perfectly reasonable to suppose that if you mount all those steps you will arrive at some vista, as in the National Theatre, from which you would obtain a tremendous view of view of space, and sense of exciting volume. Irrespective of whether you like the bare concrete and coffered ceilings of the National, it were foolish to deny the excitement of how the main entrance, foyers, and the staircases can provide variety, interest and incident. No such excitement

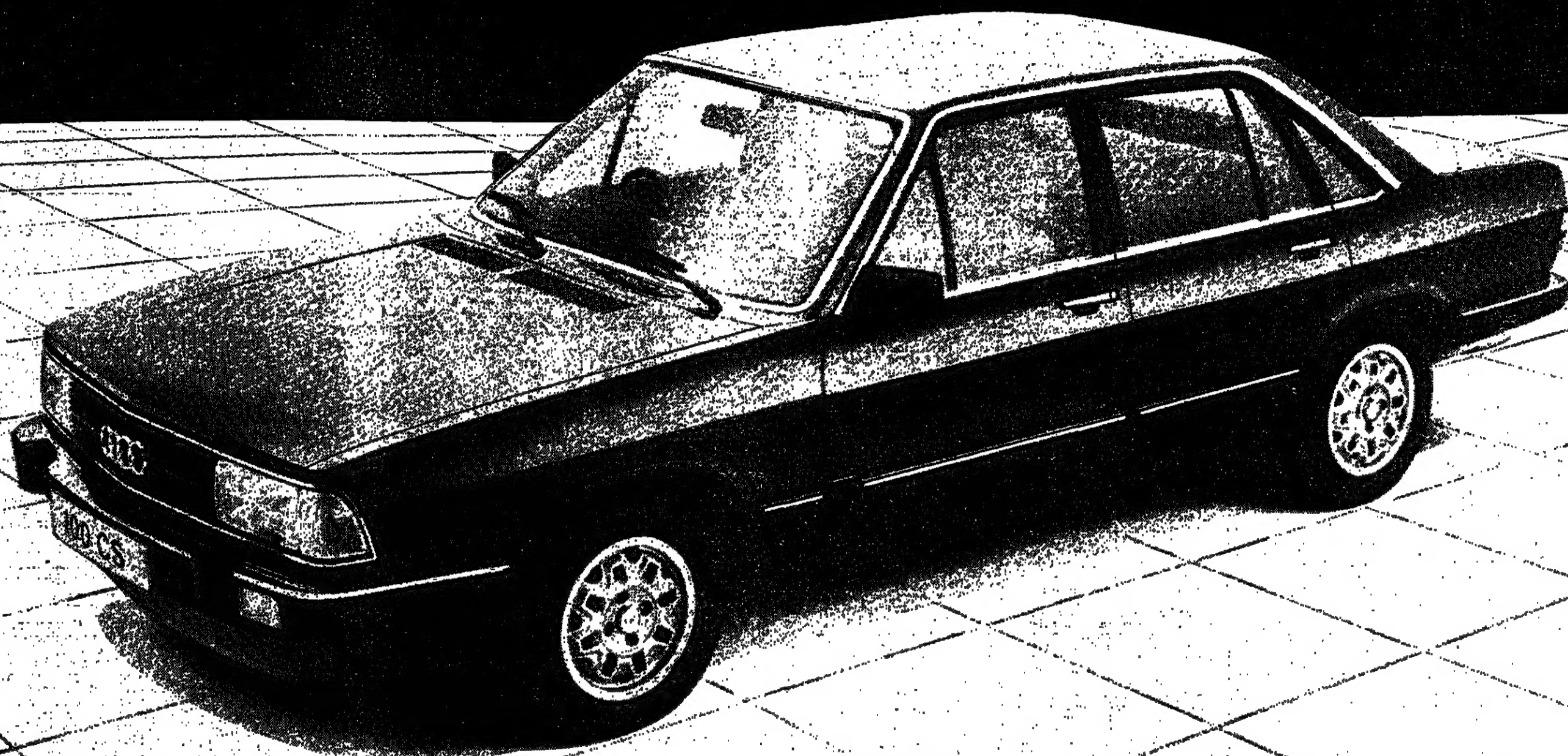
can be gained at the Barbican. Instead, the Barbican's spaces are cramped and as though squashed by the mighty weight of the bush-hammered concrete above. Indeed, everything about the building is heavy, heavy in detail, heavy in furnishing, and design, heavy in inspiration. From the deep red painted ceilings above the lower bar to the ground curving exhibition gallery behind the concert hall, inspiration gives way to Tectonic worthiness.

It is not a matter, as Mr. Rodney Gradidge seems to imply, of preferring plaster cherubs and gilt swags to the austerity of bush-hammered concrete. It is something more fundamental than that. Modern architecture, as credit as seeking a space as any previous era, more so when it takes proper advantage of new structural techniques and materials. But even in that one concession to lightness — the so-called "conversatory" — the design is strictly orthodox.

It may seem from the above that the new centre is a worthless design. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is well worth a visit — even apart from the bonus of coming to a play, or a drink. And the auditoria do have a satisfying feeling of opulent grandeur. Any sadness derived from this new centre, comes mainly from a knowledge of missed opportunities.

As is so though the designs were never quite sure exactly what they were creating, and have therefore produced a hybrid, a building that is not quite at work of art, not a work of conviction, but an assemblage of bits of other buildings that have stimulated the designer. To take a few comparisons: the Barbican Arts Centre has none of the transitory glow and glory of that artistic aircraft hangar in Norfolk, the Sainsbury Centre; none of the wealthy austerity and single mindedness of the Milton Keynes Shopping Centre; and none of the arrogance of the National Theatre.

However, a few months is infinitesimal in the life span of this building. It may well be that future generations will regard the Barbican Arts Centre as one of the finer buildings of the mid-1960s.

[illegible]

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PARLIAMENT April 19 1982

Argentina withdrawal the only first step

FALKLANDS

Mr. Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, made a statement to the Commons bringing MPs up to date with the latest developments in the Falkland Islands. He said: "Our objectives remain as already stated in the House."

Mr. Pym continued (this statement went on) in his efforts to persuade the Argentine Government to agree to the implementation of Security Council Resolution No 502. His mission provides the best hope of achieving that objective. The position is one of delicate and complex negotiations. We remain grateful to Mr. Haig and shall continue to cooperate fully with his efforts.

Meanwhile we are stepping up our military, economic and diplomatic pressure on Argentina. Our naval task force is steadily approaching the area of the Falkland Islands, continuing its ability to carry out whatever tasks may be required of it.

I am glad to say that they are now on their way back to Britain. The British Antarctic Survey team, which has been in South Georgia and the Falklands, as well as 13 British scientists evacuated from South Georgia, have arrived safely in Montevideo.

I am glad to say that they are now on their way back to Britain. The British Antarctic Survey team, which has been in South Georgia and the Falklands, as well as 13 British scientists evacuated from South Georgia, have arrived safely in Montevideo.

The three British journalists arrested last week in Argentina are expected to be released by a judge today. The British Interests Section of the Swiss Embassy in Buenos Aires are keeping us informed of developments.

Argentina must have no doubts about our resolve to exercise our rights to the full. We are making every possible effort to get a satisfactory settlement to this dispute by peaceful means.

The Government will continue to keep the House informed. Mr. Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said: "East, Lab, Labour MPs welcome the decision of the Norwegian Government to join the Community in sanctions against Argentina."

The Opposition shares the Government's objectives, which include the withdrawal of all Argentine troops and other persons from the Falkland Islands before Britain engages in direct negotiations with Argentina for a peaceful settlement of the status of the islands.

All of us agree that Mr. Haig's mission provides the best hope for a peaceful settlement, and I hope we shall all do everything we can to assist him in succeeding.

If an immediate agreement on sovereignty after the Argentine withdrawal can be reached — and this seems a reasonable aim — the stumbling block according to statements by Secretary of State Haig himself — will be the Government's consideration of the United Nations Secretary-General to provide a temporary administrator for the islands after the Argentine withdrawal.

As I have said, we have always been attached to the wishes of the islanders who have described as being paramount. Of course, the Argentine take a different point of view and that is why the negotiations are so difficult and have taken so long.

Mr. Pym: We have never disguised that these negotiations are clearly difficult and there are many proposals and ideas have been brought forward to try to resolve these difficulties. That is why the negotiations are so difficult and have taken so long.

While these negotiations are going on, hopefully with a successful outcome, it would be wrong to put the details of these negotiations into the public domain. It would be wrong to project our thoughts, or at any rate to project our comments, in a public way.

Mr. Pym: We have made our position clear from the outset. The status of the island and the wishes of the islanders are always attached to the wishes of the islanders who have described as being paramount. Of course, the Argentine take a different point of view and that is why the negotiations are so difficult and have taken so long.

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between a democratic ally and a dictatorship whose actions have often been hostile to the United States in recent years.

Can he give an assurance that the Government will not reduce its forces at present available for the defence of Belize so long as the threat from Guatemala persists?

Mr. Pym: I am grateful for what he said at the beginning of his intervention and for the shared objectives and the support that he has given to the Government. I am sure that we are trying to achieve.

The vital thing to do first is to secure Argentinean withdrawal in accordance with the Security Council Resolution 502. The methods, of course, are open to discussion, but that must be the first objective.

It would be wrong at the present time to consider what might happen if the most constructive method of achieving that objective is not successful. It would be wrong to go beyond that. Every hope and every effort must be made to do everything possible to make that successful.

As for the position of the United States, it has always seemed to me that while Mr. Haig and the United States administration are trying to achieve a peaceful settlement, it would be inappropriate that they should be in any position other than that of a mediator.

Some people might take the view that we and the Argentine are getting this out of proportion but the principal issue is of one large country taking by invasion and military force another country. That is a position which cannot be allowed to stand.

The Argentine is acting in breach of a mandatory resolution of the United Nations and all members of the UN have an interest in seeing it fulfil its mandatory obligation.

Mr. James Wellbeloved (Bexley, Erit and Crayford, SDP): It is true that with the fleet moving towards the war zone the Government have proposed to reduce the allowances of the sailors in the fleet?

Mr. Pym: He must not believe all he reads in the papers. This is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Defence who has made public his proposals which are fair and reasonable.

Sir Nigel Fisher (Kingston upon Thames, Labour, SDP): The suggestion about a UN presence, if that were offered by the UN, it might be the very factor which would break the deadlock. There could be a referendum of the Falkland Islanders and we all know what the likely result of that would be. This would be a good interim measure.

Mr. Pym: I note the suggestion and while the negotiations are in progress I cannot go beyond the objectives we have stated. We have exploited many options in the course of these negotiations and there are many more of them, so this is not necessarily the way ahead.

Mr. Russell Johnston (Inverness, Lab): Do the public state views of the British Antarctic Survey to the United States represent the views of the Government on the question of the attitude of the United States? Can we say anything more about the Soviet attitude or activity?

Mr. Pym: I made our position clear so far as the attitude of the United States Government is concerned. At the present time they are involving themselves in negotiations with ourselves and the Argentine. The Soviet Union are undoubtedly involved in the Falkland Islands and the Argentine.

Mr. Tam Dalyell (West Lothian, Lab): The Prime Minister has spoken of our many friends. Who are these friends? Are they the Americans? Are we not, right, left, and centre, right across the political spectrum, even among people who have different views on right wing movements, and are using the entire hispanic world?

It is an illusion to think that the Americans are the only friends of the islanders when an American president, from California is made aware of the attitude of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Pym: Most South American states have expressed their concern over the action by the Argentine. They may have certain sympathy with Argentine claims but they do not have

gentle flag or administration being left behind.

Mr. Pym: We have substantial achievement in the United Nations by the rapid passing of resolution 502 which, in effect, refers to the point at issue and that this is not only a matter of the utmost importance to us in Britain, but of importance to freedom loving countries all round the world. They have an interest in ensuring a withdrawal takes place as much as we have.

Mr. Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, Lab): Is it not the case that both countries are getting the whole issue out of perspective — the Argentine Government by its statement that its sovereignty will stay dead or alive on the Falkland Islands and Britain by its declaration that it will shoot first when the task force arrives?

Mr. Pym: I am not sure he is right about shooting first. The Argentine invaded the Falkland Islands when we were, in fact, negotiating with the Argentine about the future of the Falkland Islands.

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Dalyell: who are our friends?

sympathy with the methods used to try and secure their success.

The Organisation of American States did not support the Argentine invasion and has since been proposed a 72-hour ceasefire. Countries have expressed sympathy with the ideas but not with the way they have been done.

Mr. Bernard Braine (South-East Essex, C): While we all appreciate the efforts of the Secretary of State, I do not think that the issue of sovereignty, which is the issue of sovereignty, is being heard in the talks going on and it would not be right for me to say anything further at the moment.

Mr. Richard English (Nottingham, West, Lab): Does he remember the malignant brain used by the United States Ambassador to Argentina who said that if the territory in question, the Falklands, was Argentinean territory, then clearly they had not invaded it by force.

Would he consider stating the opposite, and saying that the Falklands were not Argentinean territory, and if they were, it would be a matter of justice, and if they were, it would be a matter of justice.

Mr. Pym: There can be no question but that the principle of legal sovereignty is in British hands. It is a matter of justice, and if they were, it would be a matter of justice.

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Braine: No preconditions

Nations solution to this kind of problem?

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Resolution must be enforced

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Government was asked in the House of Lords by Lord Shackleton (Lab), spokesman for the Opposition, if it had any further steps of an international kind which might be taken over the Falkland Islands issue. Lord Shackleton, spokesman for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had repeated the statement made by the Foreign Secretary in the Commons.

Lord Shackleton said: "The House of Lords is the best place to face the fact that the terms that would be imposed on the Argentine will be unacceptable to the Argentine."

We should take seriously the suggestion (he added) that we should ask the United Nations to appoint an administrator. If that is done, it would be a pre-condition, circumstances and the law is returned to what it was before the invasion.

It is not clear what the suggestion is, but it is a suggestion by an undemocratic country against a loyal ally of the United States, the United States, like Norway, should support us.

Lord Shackleton (Lab): Most people in Britain agree that there is hardly likely to be any peaceful solution unless Argentina accepts the Security Council Resolution about withdrawing the occupying troops.

If they decline to do so, people would not be able to wonder what is the use of the UN? Will it be worthwhile continuing with our subscription to the Security Council if the legally-binding decision and the absence of any UN machinery for enforcement, we are left with a situation of no force, if only under Article 51 of the Charter.

Lord Shackleton: The Government accept that Mr. Haig is engaged in such delicate negotiations, the United States Government considers it inappropriate to align itself with either side.

From Peter Nicholas, Rome, April 19.

The Cabinet meeting set for today was eloquent of the Italian coalition government's difficulties: it was postponed because all the Socialist ministers refused to attend.

The Socialists are calling for the resignation of Signor Beniamino Andreatta, the Minister of the Treasury, who was reported at the weekend to have said that a Socialist advance would bring about the end of the coalition.

He denies having said so, and maintains that he only made reference to the need for the rise of national forms of Socialism in various European countries.

The Socialists have rejected his explanation. His resignation is expected to be announced today.

It was robust and wise of Lord Shackleton to say, with his suggestion of a UN administrator, that the coalition would have to be that which prevailed before the aggression.

Lord Shackleton (Lab): Few people in this country have the vaguest idea of what is going on in the House of Commons. It is a pity that the House of Commons is so far from the people.

Lord Shackleton: The Government, like previous administrations, have always made clear their willingness to negotiate on all aspects of the Falklands dispute. The Argentines have never shown any interest in returning the sovereignty question to the International Court. And the fact is that we have not proposed it.

We feel strongly that the first thing to do is to see that resolution is implemented. Lord Shackleton (Lab): I have never suggested to any Argentine Government that the Falklands dispute should be referred to the International Court.

Lord Shackleton: That is the case.

Lending right initially at 16 libraries

This was an important moment for the cultural life of the country, the Earl of Avon, a government spokesman, said in moving that the Public Lending Right Scheme be approved. The principle enshrined in the public lending right scheme was that a modest reimbursement should be made to authors for the use of their books in public libraries.

It was proposed to establish a sample of 16 libraries. The sample would be changed regularly by replacing four libraries every year. The scheme would be based on the geographical spread of the sample would maintain a satisfactory level of accuracy in the annual survey.

The inclusion of European Community authors living in this country was deemed essential to be in the spirit of the terms of the Treaty of Rome.

What was proposed was a break-through in the way authors are paid. It was a first step towards a more equitable system of payment in relation to the number of times their works were borrowed.

Lord Ardwick, for the Opposition, said the Government should show some modest generosity by increasing the global sum of £2m. It had already lost quite a lot of value since it was proposed and this should be restored as quickly as possible.

The motion was agreed to. The House of Commons will now consider the Public Lending Right Bill.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions. Education and Science, Prime Minister. Timetable motion on Employment Bill. Debate on the Bill.

Lords (2.30): Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, second reading.



Queen Beatrix with President Reagan at the White House

Tulips for a queen

Washington is blooming with thousands of tulips imported and planted in honour of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands who began a state visit here yesterday. (Mohsin Ali writes.)

The Queen was welcomed by President Reagan at the White House at the start of her visit, which marks the 200th anniversary of the signing of the 1793 Anglo-Dutch treaty of friendship between the two countries.

This

Brandt oratory fails to rouse half empty hall

From Patricia Clough, Munich, April 19

Willy Brandt, the Social Democratic chairman, tried to rally his divided and unpopular party with the appeal "let us start again".

He opened the party's two-yearly congress with a call for a new chapter of reforms and for discipline.

He told his pacifists that there was "no other way" to disarmament than the Nato stationing of nuclear missiles in Europe. But he also urged them to ally themselves with the American peace movement.

He said the party's two-yearly congress was a "congress of Social Democratic renewal".

But whether it was simply the inhospitable atmosphere of the vast covered Olympic arena where he was speaking or whether the crisis in the party is too far gone, Herr Brandt failed to electrify the 440 delegates as he once could do so well.

His two-hour speech which blazed through reverberating microphones in the half-empty hall, sounded weak and lacked inspiring proposals. Afterwards delegates stood and applauded but there were no cheers.

Herr Brandt said he shared many of the "silly" ideas of the peace movement and roused the strongest applause when he spoke of the "insanity of the contradiction between the arms race and world hunger".

He said he feared "the illusions of those who wanted universal disarmament" and said they were out of touch with reality. "I fear more the irrational consequences of unqualified disarmament," he said, "the policy of détente," he said, "had not failed."

Russians go it alone under the sea

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, April 19

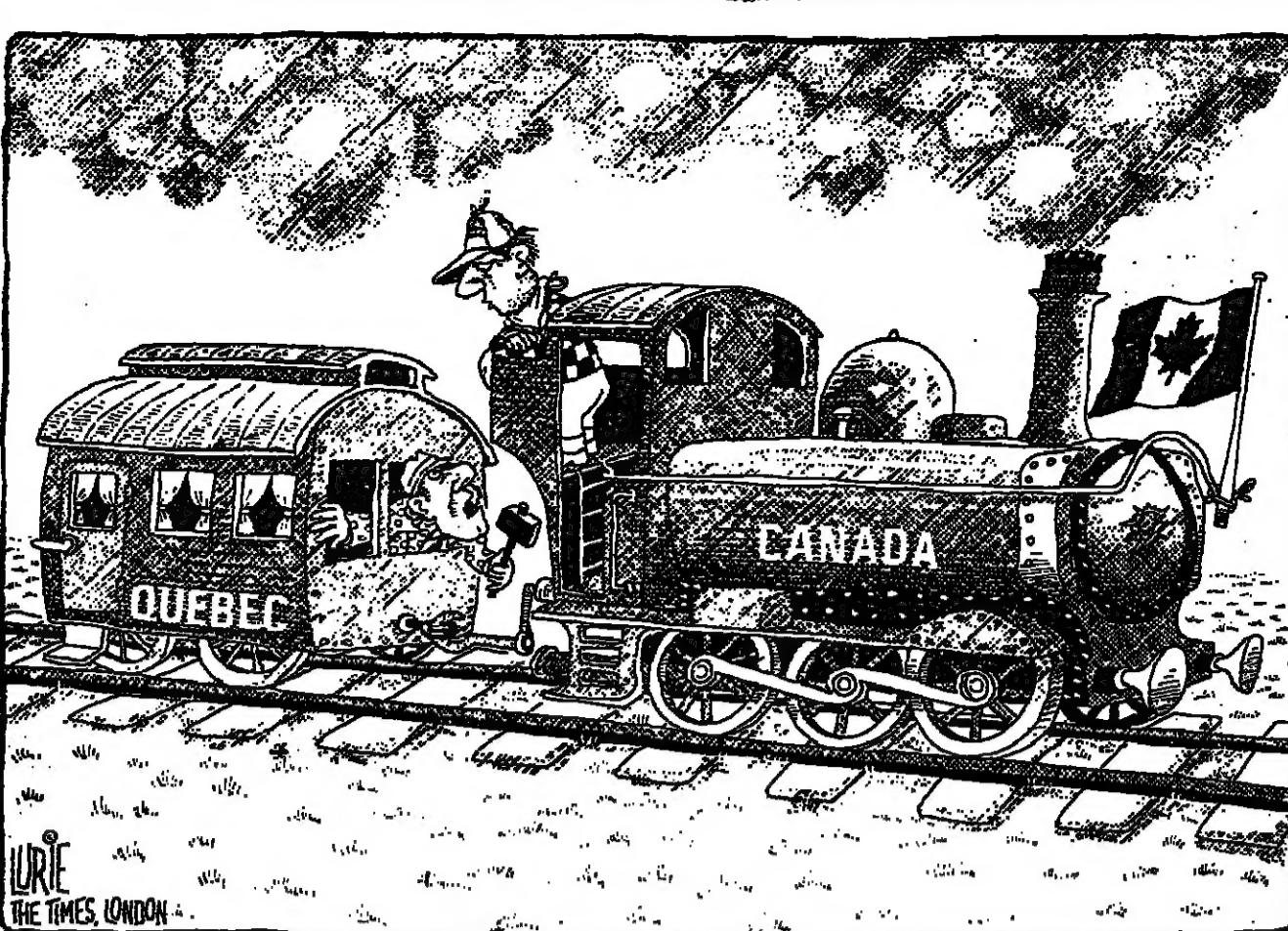
The Soviet Union has issued a decree allowing Soviet organizations to exploit mineral resources on the ocean floor outside territorial waters. The move has been officially described as a response to American attempts to change the draft convention on the Law of the Sea.

The decree, issued at the weekend by the Supreme Soviet, allows state enterprises to seek permits to prospect for resources beyond the limits of the continental shelf and lay down rules for exploitation. These deal with the setting up of off shore rigs, pollution control, observance of international law and freedom of navigation, and include regulations governing any joint ventures with foreign companies.

The preamble to the decree says the Russians have been forced to take measures to protect their interests, since other countries have already begun unilaterally to exploit the seabed. The Soviet Union was still in favour of an international agreement, however, and would still press for a successful conclusion to the present convention.

Commenting on the measures, *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya* said at the weekend that the draft law had taken eight years to negotiate and reflected a balance of interests that gave nobody unilateral advantage. It accused the Reagan Administration of going back on earlier American agreement and demanding fundamental revisions which were opposed alike by many capitalists, developing and socialist countries.

"American companies, in view of the unreliability of raw material supplies for the American industry, have started displaying a still greater interest in the possibility of extracting strategic raw materials from sea and ocean beds," the paper said.



"We want to separate and proceed independently."

Polish journalists vetted in 'good conduct' trials

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, April 19

The scene in the Polish newspaper office resembled one of those American television courtroom dramas of the 1950s, coyly subtitled "The case of the Howling Dog or Justice in the Afternoon".

At one end of the room sat four men soberly dressed, shuffling papers, scraping their chairs, coughing impatiently. Strategically positioned at a slight angle to the main table, another man radiates the curious blend of omniscience and omnipotence that comes from being both a journalist and a state-employed bureaucrat.

Facing the tribunal, there is a young rather nervous fellow, leaning respectfully forward in his chair: the candidate for "verification". This is the process of weeding out the ideological impure, the rotten apples in the journalistic barrel. So far the tribunal system has been used mainly against Polish journalists and lawyers, though university lecturers fear that it might be soon used against them. According to Solidarity underground bulletin, 1,200 journalists have lost their jobs as a result of verification.

That seems, in the estimation of many journalists to be an exaggerated figure but certainly the combination of those ousted from their jobs by verification.

Those transferred from politics to sports departments - adds up to several hundred. *Gazeta Krakowska*, the Cracow party daily, alone lost 21 of its writing staff after martial law was imposed.

That kind of inquisition is "verification"? Those who go through it are generally told not to reveal details of the proceedings but, as the situation relaxes, journalists have been less chary of passing on information about the tribunals. In the first weeks after martial law it was clearly a tough experience.

Articles written by the journalist were presented as a type of evidence for the prosecution, though of course the tribunal has no formal legal status. Casual statements made in the presence of colleagues-cum-informers are mentioned and dissected. Particularly suspect were those who had covered the Solidarity congress in September 1981, presumably because of the danger of infection.

Nowadays the process has become calmer, more of a formality. Talking to a journalist who had just emerged much relieved from his verification, it is evident that a more offhand attitude now prevails. "They have got rid of who they want. The prospect of verification keeps people in line. People are afraid of challenging their editors or making a nuisance of themselves."

According to a journalist from a Polish news organization, there were four men on his tribunal which was chaired by a member of the Central Committee press department. Also taking part in the proceedings was his editor, simultaneously a journalist and a party official.

For the first 15 minutes, according to this journalist, he was not required to speak at all. His editor read out a glowing report on the virtues and of his political record. "We hope soon," he concluded, "to welcome him into the ranks of the party." A hope, one need scarcely add, that has no basis in reality.

The first question to the candidate, a respected journalist in his news organization: "Why are you paid so much?" The editor answers for his employee: "This is a further sign of the industriousness of Mr X". The editor thus acts almost as a defence lawyer, a Perry Mason. He does not want to lose a good worker, nor does he want to lose face with him.

The candidate is asked to explain the relative weakness of Solidarity in his news organization. The candidate has a smooth reply: Solidarity thrived on the tension between employers and the workforce, there was now no such tension in his organization. The questions then proceed along the lines of where did Solidarity go wrong? What were they planning? The candidate gives the right answers. The session then closes.

The editor is told soon afterwards that his journalist has "passed" and the process is then repeated with other reporters.

Here then is the measure of ideological purity in martial law Poland. What counts is not a citizen's attitude to the government, to the Communist party, to the military authorities, but rather the degree of sympathy with Solidarity.

"Those who are not against us, are for us," seems to be the guiding principle in Polish newspaper journalism. Television reporters however, are subjected to much stricter questioning.

Swapo use mines in new attack

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, April 19

A trail of land mines has been laid by a large band of Swapo guerrillas which has infiltrated deep into Namibia.

As South African units continued a massive hunt-to-kill operation which began during the Easter weekend, a military spokesman said today that the mine-laying was a new tactic by Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization).

Brigadier Jan Kloppe said in Windhoek that in the past Swapo insurgents had only set anti-personnel mines. "This is the first time that land mines have been encountered in the farming region," he said.

The Swapo force, estimated to be about 100 strong, has penetrated into the so-called "death triangle" bounded by the towns of Tsumeb, Tsesab and Oshana south of the Kavango homeland.

It is the largest incursion mounted by Swapo since South African forces carried out a series of raids against its bases in southern Angola and, according to the spokesman, indicates that the organization has been extensively re-equipped by the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries.

As well as mines, the guerrillas are believed to be carrying Sam 7 anti-aircraft missiles and forcing South African aircraft and helicopters hunting them to use evasive tactics.

A "sumb" farmer was killed when his vehicle detonated a mine and several soldiers who were with him checking his fences were injured.

Another farmer was badly injured in a separate mine blast and a young man in Pretoria and an army lieutenant was injured by shrapnel.

Two black children, aged seven and 11, were also killed in a mine blast during the weekend.

Security forces have lost eight men killed in the operation, six when an armoured personnel carrier was ambushed.

Prisoners of conscience



Russia: Dr Sergei Kovalyov

By Caroline Moorehead, Dr Sergei Adamovich Kovalyov, a noted Soviet dissident, has been sentenced to a seven-year term in a corrective labour colony for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda".

Dr Kovalyov was a founder member of Dr Andrei Sakharov's Initiative Group for the Defense of Human Rights in the Soviet Union, and a member of the Moscow Amnesty Group.

Before his arrest in 1974 he had signed protests against conditions on labour camps and against the use of psychiatric hospitals to punish dissidents. He had also appealed publicly on behalf of individual prisoners of conscience and spoken out against the repression of religious minorities.

In December 1974 the KGB secret police searched Dr Kovalyov's apartment and came away with documents concerning human rights activities. He was arrested and tried in a show trial believed to have been a gross abuse of Soviet judicial procedures and to have violated the Helsinki Accord.

Reports suggest that Dr Kovalyov, confined to his cell, suffers from head-aches, bleeding gums and hypertension and is losing his teeth.

Spanish army takes over border control

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, April 19

Spanish Army units took up positions along the French border today to prevent illegal crossings. They were putting into effect one of the special anti-terrorist measures adopted by the Spanish Government after a weekend of violence in which Basque extremists took advantage of an apparent security lapse to blow up the country's most important automatic telephone exchange.

The escalation of terrorism which began with a bazooka attack in San Sebastian last Wednesday, has continued. Terrorists attacked a barracks of the Civil Guard at Eibar, near San Sebastian, with grenades and sub-machine guns, just before midnight last night. One civilian was wounded when police returned fire. He was hit by a stray bullet while the police were firing at the police barracks.

The mounting violence is related to a demand by ETA terrorists that the Government remove all forces of public order from the Basque country by the middle of next month.

An offer by the Interior Ministry of a 10m pesetas (€54,000) reward for information leading to the arrest of the ETA gang who are involved in the offensive, was broadcast throughout today on radio and television news programmes, and by late this afternoon authorities said there had already been considerable response.

Workers were still cleaning up the rubble at the site of the wrecked telephone exchange here. The broad street running in front of the exchange's skeletal remains as reopened to traffic this afternoon. Telephone services, with certain limitations, were restored in most of the capital today but inter-provincial calls could be made only through operators.

A data processing system used by banks and financial institutions was put back into service today, with some limitations, through the use of other memory banks. A team of architects said repairs to the five-storey reinforced concrete building would take about two months to complete.

The special measures adopted after an unusual Sunday meeting between senior Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, and key members of his Cabinet, included the cancellation of all leave for members of the armed forces and the public order forces, the assignment of military units to guard certain stations, and the use of army personnel, rather than police, for border control.

Some of the measures were designed to free policemen from other duties in order to make as many of them as possible available for duty in anti-terrorist operations.

While not all aspects of the anti-terrorist operation were revealed, it appears to resemble closely the series of steps taken early last year to reduce the terrorist threat.

Those efforts met with considerable success, judging by the reduction in the number of extremist attacks, and the armed forces were gradually pulled back from police-type duties as the result of pressure seemed to diminish.

Police sources say that all of the ETA's terrorist squads, whose members normally reside in France, are in Spain, taking part in the offensive.

Women internees likely to be freed

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw, April 19

Polish Authorities appear to be preparing the release of a substantial number of women internees according to unofficial reports coming from detention camps. Some military units have been told that they will soon be able to use holiday centres now being used as detention camps.

These reports may simply mean that the women are being transferred to other internment camps but two related developments indicate that a release is planned, probably next month. Archbishop Jozef Glemp, the Polish Primate, called at the weekend for the freeing of women prisoners, interned without trial.

This was an unusually specific appeal at a time when the Government is showing increasing readiness to talk with the Catholic church. Secondly, there are indications, from underground bulletins, that some women internees have been taken ill. May Day could thus be used as an occasion for an amnesty.

Conditions in the main women's internment camp at Gdansk are said to be good, with hot and cold running water and adequate heating. A reporter from the near by township of Bialystok recently visited the camp and wrote a glowing report on the official press. He conceded, however, that there was considerable resistance in the centre with some prisoner singing anti-state anthems.

Freeing women internees would not only appease the church, it would also represent a relatively painless propaganda move for the authorities. Only a few women occupied important posts in the suspended Solidarity organization, so the risks of the released prisoners forming a rallying point for the opposition are slight.

Meanwhile, it is understood that Warsaw police have found the transmitter used to broadcast the illegal Solidarity radio bulletin last week. Apparently the broadcast had been taped recorded beforehand and then plugged into a primitive transmitter.

Rome: Archbishop Jozef Glemp is to visit Rome for consultations with the Pope on April 26, it was announced here today. — Reuter.

Malaysian rulers seek mandate for change

From David Watts, Singapore, April 19

When Malaysians go to the polls on Thursday they will be voting in their country's most important election since independence, breaking the last slender connexion with the colonial past.

Danuk Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed, the Prime Minister, is seeking a mandate for a rigorous new style of government which has so far shown neither fear nor favour in attacking corruption and in adopting policies typified by an unwillingness to think along conventional lines or to compromise.

No one seriously suggests that he will not win the election, which has been surprisingly short of issues, but the poll results will indicate how far the policies of concession and compromise, which were the hallmark of the previous Government, may be abandoned.

The election is at both state and national levels, and an indication of the determination to break with the past can be seen from the dropping of no fewer than 59 candidates of the ruling United Malays National Organisation (Umno) coalition at national level. It is a measure also of the Government's confidence that it will at least retain its 133 seats out of the 154 seats in the Parliament.

The opposition is seeking to reduce the Government's tenure of two-thirds of the seats in the House and deprive it of the ability to amend the constitution at will.

Since independence in 1957 there have been hundreds of amendments to the constitution which the opposition has been powerless to resist. The Opposition fears these modifications might continue under Dr Mahathir if he gains a strong electoral endorsement.

The chances of the Opposition severely denting the Government's hold in the main body of the peninsula Malay states is slim. The Government has used its dominance to blanket the local political rallies named the opposition parties can scarcely match the Government's ability to get a message across.

But in the northern states close to the Thai border the Government has had less of its own way. This area is traditionally less impressed with the central government than candidates from Partai Islam (PAS) and other opposition groups such as the Democratic Action Party (DAP), which is strongly Chinese.

At the last election in 1978 PAS had only recently broken away from the Umno coalition of parties and had no time to build an independent organization. This time it will undoubtedly get the Government a run for its money.

Malaysia's closed-door political meetings attended by invitation only, have been poorly attended with Umno as the hosts, in contrast to the turnout for PAS meetings in the north.

But if the fundamentalist Muslims of PAS are any kind of a threat to the Government Dr Mahathir's much to reduce it when he coopted into Umno Mr Ismail Ibrahim, a dynamic young Muslim, who had been tipped as its next leader. It's that kind of political skill which will ensure that Dr Mahathir's victory is comfortable.

Two faces of Basque nationalism baffle Madrid

From Harry Debelius, Bilbao, April 19

During the night several young men carefully taped a small package to the metal door of a solidly built transformer shed at Lezama, near Bilbao. Then they pulled back to a safe distance and, in the pre-dawn hours of Easter morning, pressed the button. Three towns and one Bilbao district were plunged into darkness.

A few hours later, in a vast fair pavilion in Bilbao, a balding, mustachioed man in a white vest and blue denim trousers, with a blue sash wound around his waist, lifted a 220lb cylindrical stone to his right shoulder and time and time again, bobbing steadily up and down with rarely a pause to catch his breath.

He hoisted it 102 times in 10 minutes before he stopped. Onlookers applauded and shouted *Gora!*

Each in his own way, the stone-lifter and the bombers were doing the same thing: commemorating *Abertegi*, the Basque National Day.

The stone-lifter and those of his compatriots with similar patience and determination were celebrating the centenary of the rebirth of Basque nationalism, through the midwifery of Sabino Arana, author and founder of the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV).

They were also celebrating the fifteenth Basque National Day, first organized in 1932 to show how mistaken Miguel Primo de Rivera, the Spanish dictator, had been when he said that Basque nationalism was dead.

The men who placed the explosive charge are members of the ETA terrorist organization, marking in their secessionist way *Abertegi* under the rule of Madrid.

That bomb was but a small sample of the violence which erupted later in the week, when ETA was to escalate its urban guerrilla war, firing bazooka shells in several cities and blowing up the country's most important telephone exchange.

Despite the nationalist fervour, more than half the population of the Basque region was not born there.

Most of the immigrants are from the depressed regions of Andalusia and Extremadura, attracted to the Basque country by its once buoyant but currently stagnant economy.

Even among the people whose ancestors were born in the region, there are many who cannot speak the ancient Basque tongue. Franco did not allow it to be taught, published, broadcast or used for official purposes.

Yet, so contagious is their love of the land — and so deep are the roots of those returned from exile — that even the children of many Andalusian immigrants are eager learners at the *Ikastolas* (schools) where all instruction is conducted in Euskera and *Batzokis* (meeting houses and cultural centres) sponsored by the dominant Basque Nationalist Party.

There was another, more commonplace, but nevertheless significant, activity on the Basque National Day: scuffles between demonstrators and riot police.

The demonstrations, involving no more than a few hundred persons in each case, were staged throughout the region by a pro-ETA political coalition, the *Herri Batasuna* (People's Unity), were sparked by the Madrid-appointed provincial governor's ban on *Abertegi* meetings.

It is impossible to overlook the violence in the Basque country, but while some people there abhor it, others try to justify it, claiming that Madrid tries to silence systematically even the most unselfish manifestations of nationalist sentiment. Moderates, as well as extremists, feel that the Basque country does not have enough control over its own affairs. The difference is in the way they react to that situation.

In the past few years, nearly all Basque political leaders have moved away from their previous somewhat ambiguous stand on terrorism. After the latest round of bazooka attacks and bombs, *Señor Carlos Garaikoetxea*, of the Basque Nationalist Party and the president of the regional home-rule government, issued a communiqué condemning "any attempt to justify, or to diminish the guilt attached to these crimes which constitute a desperate attempt to provoke reactionary elements and sink democracy."

At the same time he expressed "the will to assume as soon as possible in Euzkadi the responsibilities and the authorities in police matters which the autonomous region is entitled by statute to assume."

Moderate politicians in Bilbao feel that it is a mistake to use the police against the more radical political forces, and it is a mistake to ban their meetings, unless there is a reasonable expectation that violence might occur.

Such a reaction by the forces which represent the central Spanish Government only lends credence to the extreme nationalists' present denunciations of "oppression" by "occupation forces". Worse still, abuse of force and instances of torture by police, the moderates explain, make excellent recruiting arguments for ETA.

Mauroy an unhappy man in the middle

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, April 19

M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, today attempted to arbitrate in the clash between M. Gaston Defferre, his Minister of the Interior, and M. Robert Badinter, his Minister of Justice, which broke out into the open last week over the extension of police powers.

True to his temperament, more inclined to confrontation than to laying down the law, the Prime Minister reminded the two men of their duty of solidarity. Government policy was decided in Cabinet and not thrashed out in public debate on the market place, as it has been too frequently since the Government took office, last June.

He also tried to placate both: the Minister of Justice, by confirming that the "security and liberty law of the previous conservative Government, which sharply tightened up the powers of the police and the courts, would definitely be repealed by the end of the parliamentary session in June; and the Minister of the Interior by assuring him that the whole Government, including the Minister of Justice, shared his concern to ensure the security of Frenchmen.

The Prime Minister's Solomon judgment is likely to satisfy neither, and once again President Mitterrand will have to take in hand personally an affair which is much more than a conflict between two of the law's guardians in the Government. It is a controversy which raises fundamental questions of policy, and threatens the cohesion and credibility of the left wing coalition in power since last summer.

Incidentally, it has dealt another blow to the authority of M. Mauroy, who already faces criticism not only in Communist ranks, which is natural, but also in Socialist ones for his concessions last week to employers over tax and other cost cuts.

It will not be the first time M. Mitterrand has had to straighten out differences between members of the Government. The Socialist tendency to doctrinal debate waxes more fiercely when he is abroad, and his steady hand is removed from the tiller.

Last December, while on a state visit to the United States to still the controversy in Government and party over the "pause" in reforms called for by M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister. This time, no sooner back from Japan, he must restore the cohesion of government policy over law and order and over its economic objectives.

The surprising concessions to employers in taxes and social costs have been widely interpreted on the left and on the right as a "pause" which dare not say its name, a switch to economic realism which the seaback of the left in the local elections last month called for: nothing short of a "social democratisation" of change.

The Communists have not been slow to condemn these "concessions" to employers, to point out that the progress was not achieved by compromise to the right. Even in the Socialist Party and some trade unions, concern is voiced that the Government has been forced into giving a good deal away with only the vague assurance that the employers will respond by stepping up investment.

Courtroom uproar after Begin minister convicted

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, April 19

Mr. Aharon Abuhazzeira, the Israeli Minister of Labour, Welfare and Immigrant Absorption, was convicted in the district court here today of misuse of money from a charitable fund he controlled when he was mayor of Ramla before joining the Begin government. He could receive seven years' imprisonment for theft and shorter sentences for lesser offences. Sentencing was deferred until Wednesday.

The conviction triggered a frenzied demonstration by hundreds of fellow immigrants from North Africa, who claim the minister had been a victim of ethnic discrimination. Demonstrators jamming the stairway to the sixth-floor courtroom chanted: "Sephardi state, Sephardi state" and sang: "Abuhazzeira, king of Israel, lives on." In the courtroom, a spectator shouted: "This is a Dreyfus case, anti-Semitic and anti-Sephardi." Policemen hustled him, kicking and screaming, outside.

Tami, the ethnic party founded by Mr. Abuhazzeira before the last general election, tonight passed a vote of confidence in their leader, who told them: "They'll not break me." The party, with three seats in the Knesset, is part of Menachem Begin's ruling coalition, which has 60 of the 120 seats in Parliament.

Israeli law does not prevent a convicted thief from retaining his membership of the Government and Parliament. The Prime Minister is empowered to oust him from the Government and Parliament can vote to suspend his membership pending the outcome of an appeal. Such action would probably cause Tami to quit the coalition and bring down the Government.

If Mr. Abuhazzeira loses his appeal and is sentenced to at least one year's imprisonment, Parliament can vote to expel him.

In court today Judge Victoria Ostrowsky-Kohn said Mr. Abuhazzeira, as mayor of Ramla, had supplied false information in recommending a Ministry of Interior grant for a fund in memory of his late father, to help needy students. She said Mr. Abuhazzeira and Mr. Moshe Gabai, the treasurer, who was also convicted, used the funds like a "private estate". The largest fund went to themselves and their

FALKLANDS CRISIS

Haig future may rest on peaceful solution

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 19

The outcome of Mr. Alexander Haig's attempts to find a solution to the Falklands crisis is being seen in Washington as of critical importance to his own future as Secretary of State.

As the talks with the junta in Buenos Aires dragged on through the weekend, the crisis was growing speculation that his tenure at the State Department would be thrown into question if he returned to Washington without having reached agreement on a peace formula.

At the same time, however, it was being conceded that if he was able to prevent an outbreak of hostilities between Britain and Argentina, his position within the Administration would be greatly enhanced.

Officials here have continued to remain silent about the progress of his mediation effort. However, the latest reports from Buenos Aires today indicated that a solution was beginning to emerge.

Mr. Haig has been the target of a whispering campaign of criticism ever since he began his shuttle diplomacy 12 days ago.

First there was a series of leaks to *The New York Times* about a dispute with the White House over which aircraft he should use on his journeys between Washington, London and Buenos Aires.

White House officials said Mr. Haig declined to fly in the first aircraft that was offered to him because it did not have any windows. Mr. Haig's aides contended that it was not the lack of windows that concerned him, but that he wanted an aircraft with better communication facilities.

Last week BBC television news carried a leak that the United States was providing military intelligence and communications assistance to Britain.

It was reported that Mr. Haig's role of "honest broker" between Britain and Argentina, and caused him to make a firm statement that the United States was only fulfilling bilateral agreements and would not provide any new requests for assistance as long as the present negotiations continued.

Today *Newsweek* carried a report stating that Mr. Haig's advisers were worried that he might not be able to carry out his role in the Falklands crisis, and that his career, adding that the White House was "actively gunning" for him.

It said that Mr. George Shultz, former Treasury Secretary, and Mr. Donald Rumsfeld, former Defence Secretary, were among names being mentioned as possible successors.

Mr. Haig, who is one of the few senior members of the Administration not to be a member of the President Reagan's "California Set" of close advisers, had been involved in an almost continuous series of personal feuds since his appointment by President Reagan. At one stage he complained about the "guerrilla campaign" being waged against him.



Occupation strategy: General Mario Menéndez, the Falklands "governor", speaking to his officers.

1,000 troops embark as more civilian ships are called up

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Nearly 1,000 more soldiers including the 2nd Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, began embarking for the Falkland Islands yesterday as the Ministry of Defence continued to prepare a military expedition to retake the islands.

The paratroopers, together with engineers and artillery, are sailing on the MV Norland from Hull, and the *Europa* (4,190 tons) requisitioned from Townsend Thoresen, which they will begin boarding tomorrow at Southampton.

The Ministry also announced the chartering of the 15,974-ton *Anco Charger*, now at Portsmouth, for 10 and Ocean Transport and Trading, which own it jointly.

The number of civilian ships in use has risen meanwhile to 28. Fifteen of them had been requisitioned and the others are under charter.

Meanwhile the Royal Navy is turning three of its survey vessels, the 2,733-ton *Hecla* and *Hydra* and the 2,945-ton *Herald* into casualty ferries which in addition would be used to carry wounded troops to the big hospital ship *Uganda*.

The *Hydra* and the *Herald* are now at Portsmouth while *Hecla* has already left Gibraltar on its way to join the task force in the South Atlantic.

The paratroopers are the second battalion of the Parachute Regiment to leave for the Falklands. The 3rd Battalion is already on the *Carder*, the requisitioned cruise liner with the task force.

The presence of paratroops does not, however, necessarily reflect a plan to make a parachute assault on Port Stanley or elsewhere. The two battalions are part of the Army's 5th Brigade, based on Aldershot, which is designated for military operations outside NATO.

Two more battalions, not so far identified, will take their place in 5th Brigade alongside a regiment of Gurkhas.

The additional troops raise the number of soldiers with the task force to about 2,500, or more than 4,000 when the Royal Marines are included. But the task force would probably need many more men if it is directed to take Port Stanley by force.

The Ministry also confirmed that British Shipbuilders has been asked to accelerate the completion of the *Invincible*, the second aircraft carrier of the *Invincible* class, which is due to

British imperialism attacked

From David Blow, Vienna, April 19

The East European press has roundly condemned British imperialism and United States power, politics in the Falklands dispute.

Pravda, the Soviet daily, has been especially critical. "Colonialism, one of the most disgusting products of imperialism, is to blame for the Falklands crisis," it said. "Britain is ready to go to war to keep one of its last colonies."

The British Conservative Government, its Prime Minister Thatcher and the bourgeoisie circles she represents, are accused of "the situation, stubbornly seeking a military solution to the problem, apparently forgetting that Britain has long lost its imperial position."

The United States, also, is accused of "imperialistic power and perhaps also economic interests." It should not be forgotten that the information on big oil resources in the area comes from American sources.

Pravda said that the British had "built a base on the Falklands." The base should not only control the access to Antarctica, which is regarded by the Pentagon as "of major significance," but also the access to South Atlantic shipping lanes, especially to Southern Africa, with which the powerful circles in the United States are linked, both by military and economic interests.

The conflict was not a matter of the interests of the Falklands Islands or Argentina, nor even of Great Britain, but first of all it was a matter of United States power interests.

The official Polish newspaper, *PAP*, said that "the Falklands region is of great significance for the Polish fishing industry, with the annual catch totalling 80,000 tons last year, earning hard currency for the fishing fleet's maintenance."

According to *PAP*, there were 42 Polish fishing vessels in the area when the crisis broke out. This explains the moderate but anxious comment by the leading Polish paper *Dziennik Wprost* that the Falklands crisis is "a very serious matter."

The *Kommunist* party daily, *Sovetskaya*, which refers to the islands as the *Islas Malvinas* also admits the complexity of the problem and calls for a "peaceful negotiated settlement."

Washington, Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador, has spoken out strongly about the assistance which the Soviet Union is said to be providing to Argentina in the Falklands crisis. (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Sir Nicholas, who was clearly trying to impress Congress with the need for a far less likely in favour of Britain, said during a television interview: "The United States has a very important role to play in this crisis. It is a very important role, and the United States is going to play it."

He said that if the Argentines succeeded in retaining the Falkland Islands, the Russians would say that they had helped Argentina achieve this position and would insist on a *quid pro quo*, "which would be some presence in the South Atlantic."

Sir Nicholas added: "I can just imagine if there was a Soviet base, or Soviet military facilities on the Falkland Islands, it's a very serious matter."

At Georgetown, Guyana, believe that Venezuela and Guatemala may take military action to resolve territorial claims if Mr. Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, fails in his efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the Falklands crisis.

The shark that got clean away

From John Withrow on board HMS *Invincible*

HMS *Invincible* continued exercises over the weekend in the shadow of Ascension Island, an inhospitable and barren rock which marks the final staging post before the task force moves onto the Falkland Islands.

Flying fish, their bodies glinting in the warm sun, skidded over the waves before the bows of the ship, while members of the crew, clad in their quarterdeck overalls and hauled fast, gleaming tuna on board which were later served up in the messes.

One seaman hooked a 5 ft shark, but his rod snapped in three places and the fish swam back into the dark water.

Ascension Island has proved a moment of respite from the long, hard slog south and it was the first time we had sighted the Atlantic before we were ferried on board, slung in great nets beneath helicopters, from the airport which has witnessed the arrival of scores of glum Hercules aircraft, packed with essentials to keep the fleet as far as possible from home.

Argentina's other dispute Shadow of invasion over Beagle Channel isles

The Beagle Channel dispute between Argentina and Chile centres on three small islands — Picton, Lennox and Nueva — which are of no great value in themselves. Their significance is that they are the only economic zones, whoever owns them can lay claim to a vast area of the South Atlantic which is thought to be rich in natural resources, and that ownership will affect the three Chilean claims in Antarctica.

The islands have been disputed by the two countries since the last century. In recent years the issue has flared up again, as the riches of the region have become better known. Argentina was on the point of going to war over them in 1978, when it was persuaded to desist by the Pope.

The islands lie at the eastern end of the Beagle Channel, which runs along the south coast of Tierra del Fuego. The channel is named after the ship in which Captain Robert Fitzroy first discovered it on a voyage in 1828-1830 — and in which Charles Darwin sailed on a later voyage.

In 1971, Britain was asked to mediate in the dispute under the terms of a treaty signed between Argentina and Chile at the beginning of the century. The Government referred the case to a panel of five judges of the International Court of Justice, and adopted their ruling as its own when it was made in 1977.

This ruling was clearly in favour of Chile, awarding the

three islands to that country. But it was subsequently rejected by Argentina, which began to raise the temperature by making military moves and threatening to take the islands by force.

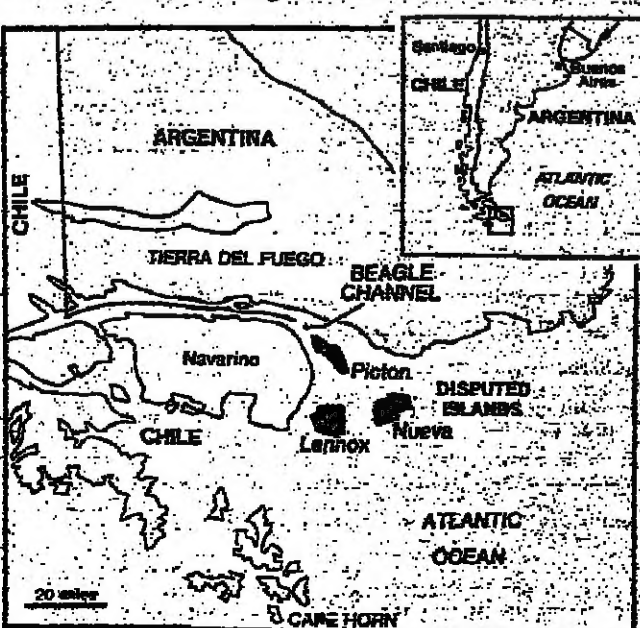
Argentina's main objection is that by the terms of an agreement signed with Chile in 1893, Chile was to be regarded as a purely Pacific power, and Argentina, a purely Atlantic one, whereas the three islands lie on the Atlantic side of South America.

After the British award had been rejected by Argentina, negotiations were held between Chile and Argentina in an attempt to reach an agreed settlement. But these made little headway and the atmosphere became increasingly tense until it became clear at the end of 1978 that Argentina was about to go to war.

At that point, President Carter asked the Pope to intervene in order to prevent a war, which he did. It was agreed that Argentina and Chile would present the cases to him and that he would make recommendations for a settlement.

These recommendations were made in December, 1980, and have not been made public. It is known, however, that like the earlier British award, the Vatican has broadly found in favour of Chile; and Chile has accepted the recommendations in spite of reservations about some aspects of them.

Argentina, however, has not accepted the Vatican's recommendations.



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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Mugger shot by police

Paris Police shot dead a member of a gang of four youths who attacked two American tourists with knives near the Champs Elysees on Saturday night.

The three-man police patrol, travelling in an unmarked car, arrested the other attackers who had been trying to steal cameras, a wallet and a bag from the tourists.

Vietnam pays human debts

Tokyo. — A large number of Vietnamese workers are being sent to the Soviet Union as "part of Vietnam's repayment of debts" to Moscow, according to the newspaper *Yomiuri*.

Quoting Japanese officials and foreign diplomats, *Yomiuri* said Hanoi had sent about 10,000 workers to the Soviet Union as a means of covering a deficit in its foreign currency reserves. They are working at industrial compounds south of Moscow.

Peace team in Tehran

An Islamic peace team has arrived in Tehran from the Iranian news agency reported.

The team is headed by President Sakou Toure, of Guinea, and El Habib Cherif, the Tunisian Secretary-General of the 43-member Islamic Conference Organization.

Eanes returns to Portugal

Luanda. — President Eanes of Portugal has returned to Lisbon after a four-day visit to Angola that included a two-hour meeting with Mr. Sam Nujoma, the leader of Swapo. He said that Portugal was ready to contribute to a solution for Namibian independence.

Pagoda hit halted

Peking. — Engineers have stopped China's 1,000-year-old counterpart to the Leaning Tower of Pisa, the 156ft Tiger Hill Pagoda of Suzhou, from tilting further for the first time since the seventeenth century.

Plugging bus crisis

Tarbes. Hautes Pyrenees. — Two people were killed and 30 injured when a bus carrying Spanish pilgrims from Lourdes collided with a lorry.

Two Australian ministers resign in customs affair

Canberra, April 19. — Australia's health and customs ministers resigned tonight over the Health Minister's failure to declare a miniature television radio-cassette to customs last October.

After five hours of discussions with senior ministers, Mr. Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, announced he had accepted the resignations of Mr. Michael MacKellar, aged 43, the Minister for Health, and Mr. John Moore, aged 45, who as Business and Consumer Affairs Minister, was responsible for customs.

The affair has caused a new, potentially destructive crisis for Mr. Fraser, who is already beset by economic difficulties including high interest rates, inflation and unemployment, which have caused the popularity of his Government to plummet.

Earlier this month Mr. Fraser beat off a challenge to his leadership of the Liberal Party from Mr. Andrew Peacock, the former Foreign Minister. Some political analysts tonight were predicting that the new crisis could



MacKellar: Brought in radio-cassette player.

Indian police use tear gas to break up riot

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, April 19

Police have ordered a ban on meetings and processions in Bangalore and Chitradurga in South India, after rioting and arson over the status of one of the country's many languages.

Two people were killed and many injured, buses and cars were burnt and buildings damaged in the two cities. Police used bullets, lathis and tear gas to break up rampaging crowds.

The rioting was over the Kannada language, official tongue of the state of Karnataka, spoken by 24 million people.

The disturbances spring from a language commission recommendation that Kannada, as the majority tongue in Karnataka, should have first place in all the state's schools. This upset those speaking Urdu, Tamil and Marathi and they complained of discrimination.

Kannada militants, joined by a leading film star who drew large crowds, clashed with their opponents. Feelings are running high.

Like caste, language in India is always a potential source of trouble. As well as the official language, Hindi, spoken by two fifths of the

Junta rules out Red Cross visit

From Alan McGregor, Geneva, April 19

Argentina has refused to allow an official of the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit the Falklands, to look after the welfare of civilians.

In its reply to the ICRC's request, it said: "This is not necessary for the time being under present circumstances."

Officials said the ICRC would maintain contact with the Argentine authorities. Dr. Paulo Parra, President of the International Association Against Torture, today accused General Galtieri's regime of taking advantage of the crisis to settle scores with political prisoners.

Scottish unions told to prepare for election

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Scottish trade unionists were yesterday alerted to the prospect of an early general election in the wake of the Falklands Islands crisis.

Mr. Michael Foot, the Labour leader, has cancelled his appearance at the Scottish Trade Union Congress, due today, to be in Westminster for political developments in the conflict with Argentina.

But last night, Mrs. Helen Liddell, Secretary of the Scottish Labour Party, told delegates that the leadership of the Labour movement looked to the Scottish TUC as the first big union conference of the year "to give a lead, to take us into preparation for an early general election."

Branding the Social Democrats as "a force attempting to divide us," she said: "Even as we speak there is a possibility of a general election in not so many months. This is a country at war. Who would have thought it a year ago? It makes my blood run cold."

"Nevertheless, no fascist right-wing dictator will be allowed to dictate to the world how we run our affairs. Time is running out. We must strive to find a diplomatic solution to save the lives of those at risk."

A number of unions are putting together a strongly worded motion on the Falklands Islands issue for emergency debate, but the first draft proved unacceptably weak to the left, which sees this crisis as a prize opportunity to attack both the Argentine junta and Mrs. Margaret Thatcher's Cabinet.

Mr. Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, said yesterday that the invasion of the Falkland Islands had "highlighted the folly of this Government's cuts in traditional naval expenditure" (Donald Macintyre writes).

هكذا من الاول

British
imperialism
attacked

From David Blow
Vienna, April 19

The East European press has roundly condemned British imperialism and United Nations power politics in the Falklands dispute.

Prague: The Czechoslovak paper, *daily Rude Prava* has been especially critical of imperialism, one of the most disgusting products of imperialism policy, is to blame for the Falklands crisis. It is ready to go to war to help one of its last victims.

Conservative Prime Minister and the bourgeoisie represents sharpening the class struggle and the bourgeoisie seeking a solution to the crisis. The bourgeoisie apparently forgets that it has long lost its class position.

...own selfish interests... forgotten the... on big oil... the area comes... sources."

Pravda wrote that the Soviet Union wanted to build a bridge to the Far Islands. "The bridge will not only connect Antarctica with the continent of Asia," it is "also a link between the whole world and strange lands to Africa, to the other Africa, the present Africa, the United States and the interests of the world."

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But more of that tomorrow.



Fashion: Suzy Menkes on diplomatic dressing

How to live up to Paris — and Napoleon's sister's bed

A Rubik Cube lay defiantly among the porcelain treasures in the elegant Embassy drawing room. In much the same spirit, Lady Fretwell, wife of the new British Ambassador to Paris, bounded up the marble staircase in a racy pin-striped culotte suit, her honey-coated dog padding after heels.

"I can't change just because I'm in Paris," she says, "Although I do have to be a bit careful about what I wear. I realized that for the first time when I slipped out of the front

door wearing a sweater and jeans with my daughter to do a spot of sightseeing, and saw one of the staff looking at me with slight horror".

The embassy front door is a pair of immense lion carved doors on the chic Faubourg St Honoré. It leads into the noble courtyard immortalized by Nancy Mitford and into an absurdly impressive series of state rooms.

Mary Fretwell's main problem with her new home is to reconcile this museum of gilded treasures

with family living. Above all there is The Bed, once the property of Napoleon's sister Pauline Borghese and still a glorious mass of gilded drapes hanging from the claws of a carved Imperial eagle. "You can see that the children have been playing here," she said, smoothing the aging silk covers. "But can you imagine sleeping in this bedroom? You can't see anyone coming into the room from the bed, for a start."

"There are plans to leave this room as a museum piece and carve out a flat for the ambassador, but that comes down to money. For the moment John and I have simply moved upstairs to one of the guest rooms".

The crimson brocade walls, the bottle green marbled fireplace and the sea of gilded furnishings in all the upstairs rooms are a formal contrast to the sunlight dancing on daffodils outside the tall French windows. Did Mary Fretwell find the idea of the Paris embassy, as well as its physical reality, slightly forbidding?

"I must admit that my first thought on hearing I was going to Paris, was 'Oh Lord, I really must spruce myself up'. The first time the importance of the job really struck me was when I was invited to parties given especially for me. You have the feeling that you don't want to be a disappointment. But it is an enormous advantage having a husband who is not a nagger or a worrier and has confidence in me".

Since Mary Fretwell left for Moscow as a young bride in 1959, ("do you know, some of my ski clothes still date from then!") she has had plenty of experience of diplomatic postings including the past two years in Washington.

"But this is the first time as number one, and this place is so very big. In the past I have always had my finger on the pulse of how the job is run. Here there is a large staff, although it has been cut back. I was amazed to discover that one gardener looks after this". She waved her hand across the sweep of spring green lawns, decorated with a well-chewed dog's bone and an embryo-like Henry Moore statue.

Preparing her wardrobe for Paris seemed a less daunting task than rearranging the embassy furnishings. Lady Fretwell is tall (5ft 7in) and slim, although she claims that the delicious meals produced by the embassy cook are already

playing havoc with her waistline. Her favourite clothes are sporty, rather than formal, but she did invest in some evening outfits for her new role.

"Of course, one doesn't get a sudden infusion of money into the budget to cope with these postings. But I did get myself a marvellous Zandra Rhodes dress in chiffon with beads that didn't look much on the peg but was perfect on, and that useful length that is neither short or long."

"Length is a problem with evening clothes. Washington is very conservative. It isn't like New York. They wear long dresses in the evening and otherwise I mostly made do with my London clothes. The only thing I had to get was a good summer wardrobe because of the climate."

"On the whole I find the women in Paris pretty carefully dressed, and very well cared for, especially their hair. I find it wonderful having long hair, because at least it always looks presentable. One thing I did

Lady Fretwell in the gardens of the British Embassy in Paris.

"I shall never forget my first impression of the Embassy. The large, beautiful, honey-coloured house, in its quiet courtyard, seemed a haven of delight. For one thing, no town noises can be heard, only the rustle of leaves, the twittering of birds, an occasional mowing-machine, an owl. The French windows on the garden side fill the rooms with sunshine."

From Nancy Mitford's "Don't Tell Alfred", published by Penguin.

Photographs by Harry Kerr.

was to go to Alexandre and have my hair put up in a chignon. It was a work of art. Clearly these French women have their hair done once a week and it just stays put."

Lady Fretwell disappeared upstairs to change into her favourite dress — a froth of spotted white tulle trimmed in leaf green and embroidered on the fitted bodice with sprays of lily of the valley. It was, she said a dress made for sweeping down the embassy's splendid staircase.

"I found it in Regamus in Beauchamp Place. In general, I tend to shop a lot in Harrods,

especially in the sales. At the other extreme, I found some things from Stirling Cooper that are fun for day wear. Then with a couple of good suits from Jaeger, I felt I was equipped."

"My only problem is probably reaching a certain age and realising that I mustn't have a fun element in clothes any more. But you do see women of 70 in Paris looking marvellous and not dowdy. I'm sure I shall change my style here. One usually does."

We return to her preoccupation of changing the style of the embassy. What could keep a welcome in the lofty archway

opposite the entrance door? Should Pauline's bed lie in state in one of the vast ground floor reception rooms to let light, air and normal bedroom furniture in up above? How could one best display the superb collection of clocks? And what to do about Queen Victoria's throne room, a dingy and damask relic of empire, its seat bearing the unmistakable imprint of recent occupation.

"Oh dear," said Lady Fretwell with a guilty grin. "I'm sure that my son has been sitting here playing his guitar."

She talked seriously for a moment of the problems for her teenage son and daughter as children of diplomats, leading a nomad existence between boarding school and foreign postings. "But I'm jolly glad we've got them," she said as we looked out at her son, a sturdy figure in a scarlet jersey practising his golf swing straight into the stately turf. "Sometimes I think that they are what keeps you from being entirely taken over by all this."



Lady Fretwell in the Embassy drawing room.

"The house seemed to be on my side; from the very first moment I set foot in it I was stimulated, interested, amused and ready for anything. When I woke up next morning to find myself in Pauline's bed, opening my eyes on the dark red walls and mahogany furniture, a curious contrast to the light gallery of the rest of the house, I thought, 'This is the first day, the beginning.'"

From Nancy Mitford's "Don't Tell Alfred", published by Penguin.

Beauty report

Colours hot and strong

Beauty looks for Spring divide into several distinct and different looks with colour as the keynote.

A breath of fresh air is blowing through the beauty counters with sporty women well served this Spring. Mary Quant's collection of Cruising Colours and Estee Lauder's Great Regatta Colours are both designed to give new clarity and definition to an outdoor face that has been based for the last few seasons on monochrome shades of brown.

In from the Atlantic sweep blues and greens, accented by cheery coral reds. Estee Lauder has included a pearly white in both the eyeshadow and her nail lacquers, to counterpoint the strong colours, although Mary Quant makes no such concessions and puts tangerine and turquoise or orange and

shell pink together in eyeshadow duo packs (Peep Eyes £2.45).

Yves Saint Laurent whips up a storm at sea by mixing sunshine yellow with spinnaker sail red and storm cloud violet. New is the deep violet used for mascara (£27), a really strong Peacock Blue eyeshadow, although they do stick to browny tones for blushers.

Revlon emphasize the importance of lips, which no longer merge politely with the face, but thrust forth hot colour. Revlon's in Bloom collection has a good coral lipstick called Confident Peach (£2.25).

Charlie call their fresh air range "the Greatest Colours on Earth". There is nothing at all earthy about the hot circus colours, which include a really strong Peacock Blue eyeshadow, although they do stick to browny tones for blushers.

Every summer brings out a rash of ethnic holiday clothes, and never more so than this year when the whole of Britain seems to be under the spell of India.

India is about the only ancient culture not dredged up from some foreign shore to give a beauty range a touch of the exotic. To Miners must go the palm for their Modern Myth range, which can cover your face with four different foundation shades called, unbelievably, Modern Stones, Up-to-date Clay, A la Mode Putty and Avant Garde Sand.

For those women who prefer not to put their heads in the sand, Helena Rubinstein explodes into colour with Les Volcaniques. Vesuvio and Terrecotta are their new shades of lipstick and nail lacquer (£2.95, £2.25).

The essential elements are not so much water, earth and fire (as Rubinstein suggest) but good strong colours that look splendid with a suntan. Christian Dior's Les Fabuleux have intense eye colours, especially good on blues and greens, which they rightly describe as Oriental or lagoon blue (£6.90). They look even more vivid if you apply several coats, the first one with a dampened sponge, as do Maxi's zingy iridescent shadows (£1.50).

A heatwave is on the horizon according to Ultima II, whose Safari colours are the spiciest of all. Coral is the colour keynote found in lipsticks, blushers and even as eye colour — but cooled down with Forest Green

shadow. Boots Number 7 also picks out peach, coral and orangey gold, with bright red lip colour.

Elizabeth Arden's Primitives is another range of warm corals. The ultimate in this feeling is a duo eye shadow (£5.50) of Pagan Earth and Clay. Arden's other summer line is Les Metalliques, which is filled with cooler metallic colours, especially pewter and platinum shadows.

The calmer waters of a tropical lagoon are also the image of Orlane's Les Antilles with Bouganvillea and Rose Hibiscus pretty pink-toned lipsticks that look new with turquoise eyes.

The rose-printed dress, the prairie skirt, the froth of petticoats and antique lace are an alternative way of summer dressing. The romantic vein in the English woman, and her fair complexion, will both respond to the quieter cosmetic colourings.

Lauder Prescriptives have introduced some very pretty pinks for Spring, including a lipstick with the homely name of Rhubarb. Also in the English cottage garden are Molton Brown, whose herbaceous border colours pick out the quiet blues and pinks like cornflower and rose.

Pretty pastels, but bright rather than dusty, are the themes of Germaine Monteil's Majolica colours, as pretty as a cabinet of fine porcelain. Harriet Hubbard Ayer's Les Nymphes are also pale but strong, with a preponderance of sky and turquoise blue.

Pearly finishes give a shimmering softness to bright colours in Miss Selfridge's Kiss and Make Up colours. A pretty combination of rose pink and blue is found in Guerlain's Paris in the Spring colours with Kohl bleu pencil (£3.25) and navy mascara (£4.75) to outline the eyes.

With the emphasis on American fashion and particularly on those turquoise and silver "Navajo" belts, it is surprising that more beauty houses have not looked for inspiration among the cornfields. Colorfast's American Spring (by Max Factor) has all the right names like Huckleberry, Blue Ridge Mountains and Yellowstone for the duo eye shadow packs (£3.50).

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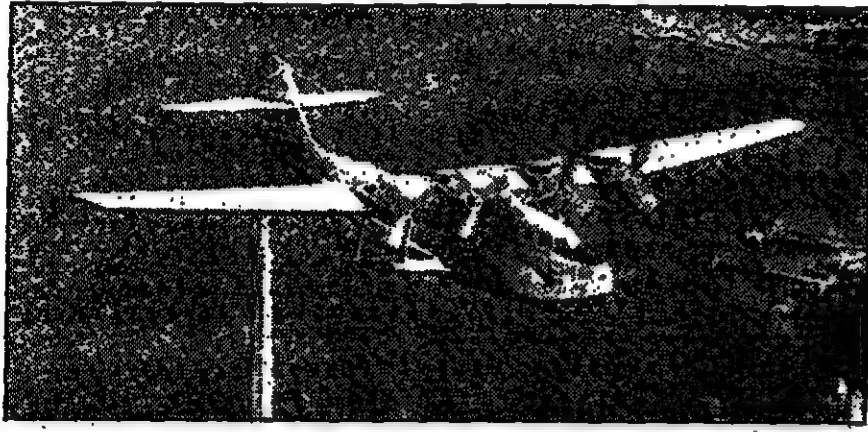


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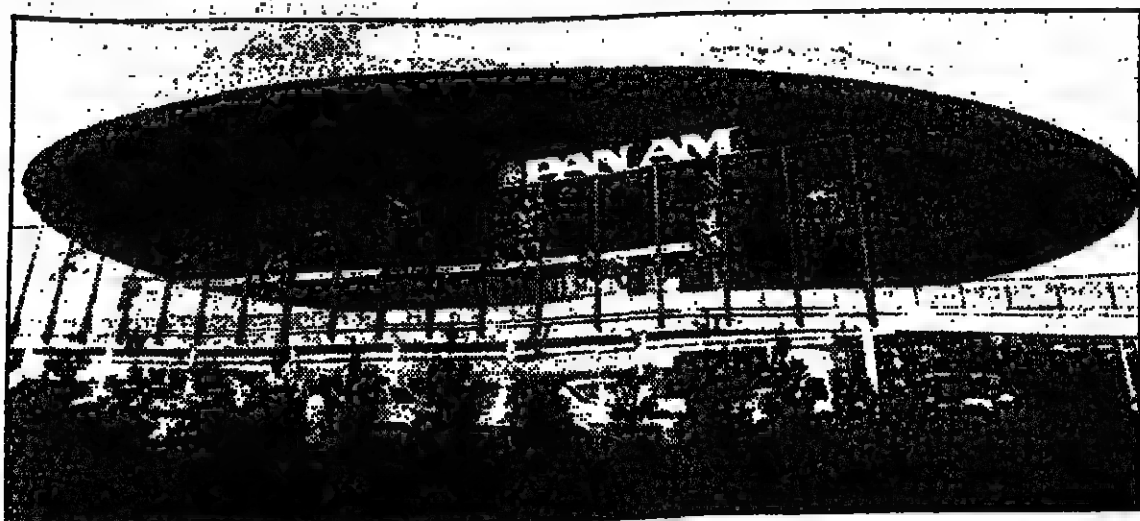
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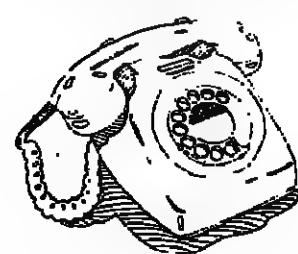
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington, D.C. 20520
January 2, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Improvements in the Quality and Relevance of Political Analysis

The Department believes that there are four areas where efforts can and should be made to improve the quality and relevance of political analysis over the coming months:



A better way to give MPs the chop

It does nothing for the stature of Parliament or for the greater public understanding of our essential, yet defective, democracy when the House of Commons embarks on one of its not infrequent grisly charades. It will do so today when it will debate a motion to guillotine the controversial Employment Bill.

Labour MPs, we are authoritatively informed, are incensed by the Government's decision to cut short argument on the Bill. Mr Michael Foot has already summoned up his righteous indignation to denounce the move as "a great error" which he promises will be bitterly opposed.

So it will be. Superficially, the silly ritual never varies overmuch on these occasions. Only the participating lead characters change, according to who holds office at the time. The major parties unashamedly use each other's leftover texts.

Labour is guaranteed to kick up a shindig. It will be looking anxiously over its collective shoulder at the trade unions, seeking to demonstrate to them that its commitment against Mr Norman Tebbit's measure is heartfelt. Mr John Silkin, the shadow leader of the House, and Mr Eric Varley, the party's chief employment spokesman, are likely to share the job of insisting that such an iniquitous piece of legislation cannot be curtailed in this cavalier fashion.

The Government will be accused of unseemly haste in refusing to allow the most exacting line-by-line scrutiny of such far-reaching proposals, however time-consuming. The interests of millions of working people and their families are at stake, we shall be assured.

The Government, almost certainly in the shape of Mr John Biffen, the new leader of the House, and the abominated Mr Tebbit himself, will point out that after some 22 sittings in committee and 32 hours of debate, MPs have only managed to get through four clauses. Therefore, they will declare, there must be a tightly-drawn timetable, both for the remaining committee sessions and for when the Bill returns to the chamber for the whole House to consider. Labour's deliberative go-slow tactics, they will claim, leave them no choice.

They can be expected to trot out, justifiably enough, the many times when the last Labour Government resorted to the guillotine to ensure that its legislation reached the Statute Book. They will doubtless omit to mention the vehement disapproval for such moves advanced by the then Conservative Opposition.

When the grousing and the shouting is over, the party whips will usher everyone through the voting lobbies. Labour MPs, inevitably beaten at the numbers game, will privately sigh with relief to know they will no longer risk those wearisome, turgid and mostly futile unrestricted debates long into the night. Another round in the phoney war will be over.

It is though, an indictment of the outdated and introverted parliamentary system that these antics are permitted to continue. MPs in opposition, regardless of political colour, still pretend that time is a potent weapon. It rarely is. But they will concede nothing. A range of vested interests underpin their obduracy.

When Labour was in power, I wrote to Michael Foot, the then Leader of the House, on behalf of a group of junior ministers — the poor bloody infantry of the Government. We had been stirred up partly by the perpetual strain of those long days and nights, partly by



Mr Tebbit: he will get his guillotine

The idea, or something like it, could still be resurrected. Mr Biffen might at least float the prospect of all-party talks on Parliamentary procedure which are long overdue. He could be assured of Social Democratic Party support for an attack on the existing follies and inadequacies.

Any new move would, of course, be countered by the same old gang of traditionalists, hidebound proceduralists and procrastinators, serving up the same old reasons for protecting the status quo. They would probably be joined, not for the first time, by the House of Lords abolitionist all-or-nothing brigade.

If Mr Biffen is too new and too nervous to face up to that, then I trust that an SDP-Liberal Alliance government would be ready to put it to the test.

Meanwhile, the idle bickering will go on. Mr Tebbit, his votes stacked up, will get his guillotine. I have no wish to help his unfortunate and untimely Bill along. It is at best a smokescreen for the Government and irrelevant to the nation's real industrial relations, which require far more careful and constructive reform than is on offer. I cannot, however, back the political fraud and gamesmanship which outright hostility to the guillotine would entail. I am sure that they will all get along without me very well. Who knows, if enough of us follow suit, someone just might get the message.

John Grant

The author is Social Democratic MP for Islington Central and the party's employment spokesman.

Revealed: America's dithering in the Shah's final days

by Robert Fisk

In late August of 1978, John D. Stempel, the acting political head at the American embassy in Tehran, welcomed ambassador William Sullivan back to Iran with a dog-eared assessment of the Shah's crumbling power.

"While you were away," he wrote, "the place didn't really turn to crap, but it might have looked like it." Stempel could be forgiven his cynicism. All summer, unrest against the Shah's rule had continued throughout Iran. More than 300 people had died in a theatre fire in Abadan, a disaster whose only tangible result was an apparent though discreet split between the religious factions led by Ayatollah Khomeini — still in bitter exile in Paris — and Ayatollah Shariat Madari, down in the holy city of Qom. The Shah's Constitution Day speech had publicly set Iran on the road to liberalization but his shift towards Western-style democracy was being interpreted throughout Iran as a sign of weakness rather than incipient freedom.

The Pahlavi dynasty and its kind of rule had lasted less than six months left to live.

The staff of the American embassy had, of course, no way of knowing this. In a confidential letter to the American consul in Isfahan in September 1978, Charles W. Nass, the Tehran embassy's Minister-Counsellor, restated with dogged determination the State Department's Iranian perspectives. "The US," he wrote, "has welcomed the Shah's liberalization policy which aims to develop over time a democratic political system; we have no doubts as to his sincerity about the process. The monarchy is a deeply important institution in Iran and the Shah is, in our view, the individual most suited to lead the Iranian people to a more democratic system."

The confidence was painfully misplaced but in the last months of the Shah's rule, American foreign policy was hopelessly divided over the future of its Middle Eastern ally. Its embassy officials in Tehran, desperately trying to understand the rise of a brutal theocracy in the place of an equally ruthless dictatorship, sent back to Washington their increasingly dramatic assessments of the upheavals and street

fighting that sometimes took place only a few blocks from their compound in Takht-e-Jamshid Street.

It is not usually vouchsafed to ordinary mortals to read such reports until long after the events have become history, but the thousands of hitherto highly secret documents purloined by Iranian students after they seized the embassy in November, 1979, therefore provide an unprecedented insight into the workings of American foreign policy at this critical moment.

Though published by Ayatollah Khomeini's regime for blatantly propagandistic purposes, the papers are a valuable source book for political historians, a brief glimpse through the mirror of modern history at a time when governments would prefer to keep their archives to remain firmly and legally closed.

The Iranian and the United States Governments were by late 1978 clearly beginning to distrust each other. President Carter's human rights campaign, being cited against the Shah, and when Stempel met Darius Goyandor, the Iranian Prime Minister's Special Adviser in September 1978, he had to assure him that "the so-called 'American emphasis' on human rights had not, contrary to the opinion of many, advocated chaos instead of public order."

But Ambassador Sullivan was himself disenchanted by the Iranian authorities, astonished by their apparent inability to grasp the gravity of the violence in Tehran and other cities. Foreign Minister Ashraf, he told Washington, "showed little sensitivity to the deaths that had occurred in the clashes earlier that day (September 8) and insisted that no more than 10 had died. He later telephoned me

at home to change that figure to about 100".

On September 10, Sullivan had an audience with the Shah and found him "tired and unhappy, but considerably more spirited than he was a week ago." He persists in saying that he sees the Soviet hand in all the demonstrations and disturbances that have taken place. At the same time, he says that past mistakes must be corrected... he is eager for some public expression of United States support for him, for his regime, and for his programme... he categorically eschewed any suggestion that he will abate or flee the current situation."

The American Embassy directed much of its energy towards cultivating Ayatollah Shariat Madari, whom it identified with the more moderate clergy. Khomeini, one American memorandum stated, was "committed to violence and destruction" while Shariat Madari "would doubtless welcome a chance to participate in an electoral process which might not leave (the religious moderates) wholly subservient to Khomeini."

There are countless references in the American documents to threats and harassment by the organized Khomeini fanatics but precious little attempt to find out just who these "fanatics" were supposed to be. Ambassador Sullivan told Washington in September 1978 that the extremist coalition of fanatic Muslims led by Ayatollah Khomeini had "reportedly been penetrated and is assisted by a variety of terrorist, crypto-Communist, and other far left elements."

The Americans should have realized that the Shah's power was inevitably doomed when they learnt how his

Shia Islamic movement dominated by Ayatollah Khomeini is a far better organized, enlightened and able to resist communism than its detractors would lead us to believe. It is rooted in the Iranian people more than any Western ideology, including communism.

Sullivan admitted that his embassy had been "labouring with the problem of understanding the breadth and depth of the renaissance Shia religious movement in Iran." The trouble, he said, had become "indicated or locked up in Savak prisons. 'Nevertheless, it has become obvious that Islam is deeply imbedded in the lives of the vast majority of the Iranian people...'

It was a painful lesson, but in the aftermath of the revolution the Americans did their best to come to terms with the new regime. Bruce Laingen, the charge d'affaires, who was also in custody, was released within a year, attempted to secure the friendship of Amir Abbas Entezam, the deputy Prime Minister and later the Iranian Ambassador to Scandinavia.

Awardees of the code name SD Plot 1, Entezam appears in the embassy archives holding secret discussions for arms supplies with American officials who appear from the documents to be CIA operatives.

Laingen and his colleagues, however, could not maintain relations with Iran once the Shah arrived in New York for medical treatment. The embassy was invaded in November 1979, and the archives came to a halt, leaving for the Iranians not only a wealth of information to feed their conspiratorial theory of history but a few lessons that they might have heeded had they read the papers more carefully.

They might, for example, have paused a little longer when they came across a memorandum prepared for the director of the defence security assistance agency in Washington just before the Shah's fall. "Iraq remains the greatest threat to Iran," it said. "Any attack by Iraq would likely be limited, with the oil fields as the target. A decision to mount such an attack would require a weak Iranian military force and some plausible reason to present to world opinion..."

Who's to say who's who in the zoo?



Most people can tell the difference between an elephant and a kangaroo. Quite a few could even cope with addax, oryx, dorcas and red-fronted gazelle. But where *Hemionus* and *Chrysomys* are concerned — they are, in fact, two genera of insects whose larvae eat aphids — it takes the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to sort them out.

The commission, founded in 1895, is in peril. After decades of toiling unsung and barely seen in the shadow of the dinosaur at the Natural History Museum in London, the learned body that judges the most basic of issues, the naming of species, among the 1,100,000 living and fossil animal species, may itself face extinction next year.

The trust that administers the commission has only one regular source of income: the sales of its bulletin and the code it publishes for the guidance of taxonomists. Two grants which have kept it

going during recent years have now expired and it must find £50,000 to £70,000 a year. Its loss would be a tragedy.

The commission describes itself as "the only international tribunal with the authority to regulate nomenclature problems that obscure communications between zoologists all over the world." This means not only mediating in taxonomic disputes concerning known species but also picking an authoritative way through the inevitable confusion arising from the discovery of about 15,000 new species and 2,000 new genera annually.

"The prospect that the commission may cease operations and the confusion in nomenclature that would inevitably follow should be of concern to all zoologists in medical and veterinary work, agriculture, horticulture, ecology, conservation, palaeontology and taxonomy," the February issue of *The Biologist* gave warning.

The commission comprises 26 zoologists and palaeontologists from 17 countries, reporting to the Division of Zoology of the International Union of Biological Sciences at its triennial assemblies. In 1905 it formulated its first code of rules for nomenclature; this year, ironically, is to see the publication of its third edition.

As there are more species of beetle alone — about 300,000 — than of flowering plants, it is obvious that no code could hope to accommodate every new animal species; cases where the code and the naming zoologist cannot cope are sufficiently plentiful to have filled 38 volumes of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*.

Those opinions are often of far more than academic interest; identifying the tropical freshwater fluke that spreads schistosomiasis (or should it be bilharzia?) for example, or the organism that causes malaria, can be a matter of life or death, as, less dramatically,

can be a furious controversy over what to call a species of grain weevil or the bee that is the main pollinator of alfalfa.

Plants and animals, of course, are separate "kingdoms": small wonder, then, that different taxonomic philosophies should reign. Compared to zoologists, botanists are a happy-go-lucky lot, with a far less rigid code that anyone can interpret as he wishes, and the first validly published name takes precedence.

Zoologists, inevitably, see this system as a mildly disreputable free-for-all, while botanists speak of "fixing" their colleagues' attempts at "fossil" taxonomy.

At the root of both disciplines, however, is a similar pathos: the thanklessness, as one biologist, whose own name is hardly a household word, put it recently, of work "so fundamental it doesn't get noticed".

Tony Samstag

What's Greek for a Driver's farewell?

There will be more than usual good cheer today in some of the country's top restaurants. Christopher Driver, the scourge of the kitchens, is leaving the *Good Food Guide*. He goes with a glowing testimonial from Peter Goldman, director of the Consumers' Association, which publishes the book.

He says Driver made a distinctive and dedicated contribution, carrying on the tradition of literary merit and thorough research established by the *Guide's* founder, Raymond Postgate.

Driver, whose predilection for acidulated comment upset whole brigades of chefs and restaurateurs, had much in common with Postgate. When they first lunched together, Driver won his predecessor's approbation by spotting an error in the addition of the bill. Thereafter, both being classical scholars, they exchanged notes about their meals in Latin and Greek.

Driver says that after producing 12 editions he has had enough of the feast. The *Guide's* followers will hope that his successor maintains his campaigns against Muzak and smoking in dining rooms, and that he will inherit that way with words which enabled Driver, for instance, to describe Wolfe's boiler-suited waitresses as "ewe-lambs in Wolfe's clothing".

Marathon of MPs

Two of the Conservative MPs intending to compete in the Gillette London marathon on May 9 put in staggering performances round the Isle of Thanet over the weekend. Matthew Parris finished the maritime marathon in 2 hours 52 minutes, which won him sixth place although it was some minutes slower than his last London marathon — in which he came 606th.

Jonathan Aitken, the local MP, finished his first marathon run in 3 hours 54 minutes, but, he assures me, the course was much stiffer than the London one will be. "It took in the windy seafronts of Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs, and diverted up every scenic hill in Thanet", he says.

Aitken thinks he proved the superiority of politicians over civil servants by beating his house guest, a member of the Cabinet office, by 16 minutes.

The other MPs hoping to run the London course are Richard Douglas and Leslie Huchfield (Labour); and Gary Waller, Keith Best and Cecil Parkinson (Conservative). Sadly Parkinson, who is Conservative Party chairman in his sedentary moments, has had his training disrupted by the Falklands crisis.

Ned Sherrin, who chairs today's *Foyle's* lunch for Claire Bloom, has a special grace for a literary luncheon. It was supplied, in prompt answer to his entreaty, by Bishop Mervyn Stockwood, and runs: "For the edible and the readable we give thanks to God, the Author of Life." There is, I understand, no copyright.

THE TIMES DIARY

I hope there is no ominous portent in an exchange that Commander Anthony Bateman recalls with some officers of the Armada Republica Argentina at a reception at Admiralty House, Simonstown in the 1960s.

Seeking a conversational gambit, Bateman inquired why none of them, not even the admirals, wore medal ribbons.

The reply, which effectively put an end to the conversation, was: "We have no medals because we fight no wars. You British wear ribbons because you are always fighting." Photographs of the junta show the admirals and generals still in undecorated uniform, so we must hope they have not now developed a determined lust for battle honours.

The country, urgently needs repairs which Blant thinks likely to cost more than £70,000. They are being neglected because the local congregation is already struggling to raise a similar sum for repairs to the church itself.

Mount Everest, the fully booked high rise facility in the Himalayas, is soon to be the venue for international summit discussions. While Chris Bonington's six-man team are attempting the previously unclimbed east and north-east ridge, a strong Russian team is climbing the south-west face from Nepal, and 16 Americans are tackling the north face.

Carrot cure

The peculiar cookery of the citizens of Salvador, the oldest city and former capital of Brazil, may play an important part in testing the theory that carrots can inhibit cancer.

The Salvadorians cook their *vatapa*, *xinxim* and *moqueca* (fish, chicken and seafood) in red palm

oil, which contains from five to ten times as much carotene as carrots. Their use of the oil, inherited from West African slaves, gives Salvadorians the highest carotene intake in the world. Carotene is a principal source of vitamin A, which Sir Richard Doll has estimated could reduce cancer mortality by a third.

Now a Brazilian epidemiologist working in the department of community medicine in Oxford, Dr Alex Kalache, is to compare the incidence of cancer among Salvadorians with that in nearby Recife, where red palm oil is not a popular cooking medium. If he finds the marked difference he hopes for, red palm oil and a pills will outstrip even vitamin A pills and polar bear liver (the richest source of pre-formed vitamin A) as the health food of the future.

Skates on now

Chris Galer has just sent a birthday card to the drama producer of BBC Radio Wales in Cardiff, not for his birthday but to mark the first full year the manuscript of Galer's radio play *Card* has spent with him. The card reads: Dear Manuscript, Congratulations on reaching one year of age. Where are you? Why don't I hear from you? Are you lost? Yours ever, Dad."

Thin Ice was well liked when originally submitted and read by the producer and a script editor. Some "final" revisions suggested were quickly carried out. Since then there has been no word save a message last December that the revised version had still to be read. Letters have gone unans-



wered, and telephone calls were not returned.

Now Galer says that, though the play is only one year old, it will have to fend for itself. He only intends to continue sending it an anniversary card every year.

Seven-year scorch

Arthur Mackinn, the retired bank clerk and amateur climatologist of Bognor Regis who claims to have predicted correctly the fine weather for last year's royal wedding and the snow at Christmas, feels we are now due for a hot summer.

The longest period between two hot summers in the past 80 years, he says, was seven years from 1940 to 1947. Our last super summer is now six years past.

Don't start casting the clouds just yet though. Mackinn warns that until the middle of May we may have to endure cold winds, cloudbursts, severe thunderstorms and possibly even snow. This he blames on the second eruption of Mount St. Helens, which he claims, was the cause of the unprecedented April frosts in the eastern states of America.

When the volcano last exploded, in May 1980, one of the things blown up with it was Mackinn's confident prediction of a scorching summer that year. Expect the fine spell to commence, volcanoes permitting, about May 22.

Evolving doors

To commemorate the centenary of Charles Darwin's death, his great grandson, Richard Darwin Keynes, professor of physiology at Cambridge, yesterday unveiled a plaque renaming University College London's biological sciences building the Darwin Building.

University College claims to be the only academic institution in the world which occupies space where Darwin once made his home — other sites having since been demolished or changed to non-academic uses.

Brian Cook bought a block of Cadbury's Dairy Milk whose wrapper carried a voucher with the instruction: "Take this coupon to your retailer, most of whom will exchange it for a free 40g bar."

This leaves him wondering uneasily which part of his retailer is most likely to refuse.

PHS

Australian...
From Mr George...
Don Markwell...
Sir, Your recent...
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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE SEARCH FOR COMPROMISE

Mr Pym's statement in the Commons yesterday on the Falklands crisis was as unambiguous as must be expected in the midst of such critical negotiations. He did little more than reassert British objectives, which are to get Argentine forces withdrawn from the Falklands and British administration restored before negotiations can resume on the long-term future of the islands. Meanwhile, every effort is being made to build up military, economic and diplomatic pressure on Argentina. The fact that Norway has now joined Europe in imposing sanctions is to be welcomed.

There remains, however, a wide gap between the basic simplicity of British objectives and the complexities of achieving them. Britain has sent the fleet to defend two principles. One is the principle that territorial claims should not be pursued by force, and that when they are the gains should not be allowed to stand. In other words, aggression should not pay. The other is the principle of self-determination: the Falklanders, like other peoples, should have a right to decide under which government they wish to live. This right has been violated by Argentina and should be restored. Both these principles have been endorsed by the United Nations, and the first has been specifically reinforced in the case of the Falkland Islands by Resolution 502.

Hence there can be no negotiation on the basic British demand that the Argentine forces withdraw from the islands and the Falklanders be given a chance to express their wishes. But that does not mean that negotiation is impossible, or even that Argentine interests cannot be accommodated. The situation before the invasion included British willingness to negotiate over the sovereignty of the Falklands. Among the ideas put forward was that Argentina would be given nominal sovereignty and would then lease back the islands to Britain for a fixed period, perhaps twenty-five years. To restore the status quo ante is, therefore, not to deny Argentina any chance of achieving its aims, but on the contrary to restore British willingness to negotiate on just this point, but certainly not under duress, or the threat of it.

Moreover if negotiations began in peace they could take place against a background which would be somewhat more favourable to Argentina, for there is one aspect of the status quo ante which cannot be restored, and that is the comfortable assumption of the islanders before the invasion that they could remain indefinitely under solely British protection while building up all the benefits of close links with the Argentine mainland. Given the opportunity to express their views they might now be more amenable to compromise arrangements than they were in the past. They cannot be greatly attracted by the prospect of

living on a heavily fortified island at the end of long and vulnerable lines of supply from the United Kingdom. In other words, defending the principle of self-determination may not be wholly incompatible with reaching some form of compromise which would save Argentina's pride while restoring British administration. For instance, it would not seem entirely wrong if the freeholder were permitted to fly a flag along with the leaseholder, provided that entitlement was achieved by negotiation and agreement, rather than by aggression.

What remains wholly unacceptable, however, is that the Falklanders should simply be taken over by a government which not only has no legal right to be there but also happens to be a singularly brutal military dictatorship which cannot in any way be trusted to respect their individual rights, as it is already showing by its attempts to "Argentinize" the island. To permit this would be to forfeit any claim to be concerned with human rights or basic justice.

However, if it is not too difficult to envisage just solutions that ought to be acceptable to both sides it remains formidably difficult to chart a course for reaching such solutions in time to avoid a military clash.

That would prejudice not only a peaceful future for the Falklanders but also what ought to be another important British objective: the restoration of good relations with Argentina.

FROM FUNNY MONEY TO A CASH CRISIS

The Treasury Committee of the House of Commons is temperate in its criticism of the Government but telling in its arguments in its latest report on public spending plans. Its call for much greater information from the Government on the volume and output of public spending in the years ahead should be endorsed by the House when the Government's expenditure plans are discussed on Wednesday.

This year has seen the first attempt by the Government to carry out its spending planning for several years ahead in cash terms. In the past, plans were drawn up in "volume" terms, which the committee concedes did not give a true picture of what most ordinary citizens would think mattered in assessing spending. The measure assessed what was used up as inputs not what was produced as output; and it did not give sufficient warning of changes in costs.

It is this which led to a general acceptance that the old system of controlling public spending had to go; and as a blunt instrument aimed at underlining the way things have changed, planning in cash has many advantages. But there are problems, to which the Government will have to deal with if it is to make its plans for future

years credible. In an ideal world without inflation there would be no need to worry about whether spending was planned in cash terms or in "real" terms, for the two would be identical. It is inflation which makes the distinction important. It is only by having a clear view of what is going to happen to inflation and what the Government can expect to get for its money in future years that the public can assess Government spending plans.

Treasury officials fear that spelling out such information would strengthen the hand of spending departments. The reason for that fear shows the danger of the way in which the latest spending plans have been drawn up. For the assumption about inflation on which the old volume plans were originally converted into cash was more optimistic than the Government is now forecasting. Unless public sector costs are held below those of the rest of the economy, that will present ministers this summer with a choice between cuts in programmes or increases in cash amounts available for next year and beyond.

We thus risk seeing a repeat of the events of last summer, when the Cabinet was deeply split over a call for spending "cuts" which

ended up with spending in the current year £5,000m higher than planned at the time of the 1981 Budget. It is always tempting to assume that public sector costs will be held down; but if that is not achieved, the Government finds that it has allowed yet more time to slip by without reductions in its current spending. If it then tries to bring the total down it can only do so by reducing its investment, something which is bad for us all. The Government says that companies have to plan in cash and it must do the same. But companies also take a view about what activities they expect to be carrying on in the years ahead. If all prices were to double unexpectedly, it would be a very foolish company which halved its operations to hold to cash targets.

The danger of the Government's approach is that by trying to put all the emphasis on cash planning in the public sector it may destroy the credibility of its planning. The sooner the Chancellor can show the House that he has worked through the consequences of his spending plans and that the Government is prepared to take the action needed to meet them the greater will be the credibility of his strategy as a whole.

John Wilkinson, Director, Public Affairs, BBC, Broadcasting House, W1.

Worker democracy

From Mr W. J. Allenby
Sir, Professor R. Beresford Dew's letter (April 15) on employee democracy contains a major error: what employees of German companies have the right to elect by secret ballot is half the supervisory board, not the board of management. In the case of most companies the supervisory board meets once or twice a year. It is also wrong to believe that all British companies lag behind their German counterparts in employee information and participation. I can assure your readers that we follow exactly the same procedures in our British and German companies and we are by no means unique in this respect. More fundamentally, Professor Dew appears to over-estimate the extent to which a procedural framework, imposed by law, can change the deep-seated attitudes bred by generations of distrust and prejudice.

Finally, I would like to remind Professor Dew that what he is asking for, and no more, is contained in the fourth alternative of the latest EEC draft fifth directive which shows signs of being adopted in the near future. Perhaps Professor Dew can use his influence to help to ensure that some relatively minor amendments are carried before this happens.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN ALLENBY,
Joint Managing Director,
Laurie Bagnall Ltd,
Kingsclere Road,
Basingstoke,
April 15.

Future of local radio

From Mr J. F. Wilkinson
Sir, Let me state quite categorically that there is no truth at all in the rumours referred to by Mr Charles Morris, MP, and Mr Frank White, MP, in their letter printed on April 12, which suggested that the output of BBC local radio stations is to be reduced. Further to this there is no intention to divert their resources or diminish their editorial position in any way. The intention of the Board of Governors is to ensure that the network production centres, the eight regional television stations and the present and future local radio stations in England are supported by a management structure which will properly safeguard their development.

It is with this in mind that they have asked me to undertake a review of the present arrangements. I have already started consultations with staff but it will be some time before these are completed. The chairman of all regional and local radio advisory councils have been informed of this review and will be further discussions with them at the appropriate time and before final decisions are taken. There is no truth at all in the statement that local advisory councils will be disbanded in favour of one overall council.

The BBC welcomes the recognition of the valuable contri-

Australian elections

From Mr George Brandis and Mr Don Markwell
Sir, Your recent coverage of the leadership crisis in the Australian Liberal Party (report, April 10) asserts that the Liberal Party owes its electoral success at the Federal level since 1975 to the leadership of Mr Malcolm Fraser. We dispute that there is such a causal relationship between Mr Fraser's leadership and the electoral successes of 1975, 1977 and 1980.

Indisputably, the 1975 election was a massive vote of no confidence in the Whitlam Labor Government. It had little, if anything, to do with whoever led the Liberal Party then.

As was widely realized in Australia at the time, the election of 1977 (not, as you report, 1978) was little other than a rerun of that of 1975 — only two years before. The appalling performance of the Whitlam Government was fresh in people's minds. The vote was against Whitlam (who led the Labor Party in the election) rather than for Fraser. It was not until 1980 that the electoral spotlight fell on Mr Fraser and far from being "a more than convincing victory", the Fraser Government came very close to losing.

The election saw a swing to Labor of 4.2 per cent leaving the Government vulnerable to a swing of less than 1.5 per cent — in Australian terms, exceptionally close to the brink. All of the seats that make up the Government's apparently comfortable majority are held by exceedingly narrow margins. Also, for the first time in 30 years, the anti-Labor parties lost control of the Senate.

Your report concedes that the Liberals, under Fraser, appear now to be heading towards electoral defeat. Opinion polls over many months, the recent by-election in the Federal seat of

Crime prevention programme

From the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders
Sir, Crime and violence are rightly issues of great concern, but the hue and cry of recent weeks has neither changed the facts about crime nor told us anything new at all about how to deal with it.

Rates of recorded crime are rising in all Western industrialized countries. We know as well that the USSR and even China are facing similar problems. We know that crime is a complex problem with its roots deep in society. We know the breakdown of urban communities and the decaying of thousands of people into massive, bleak housing estates have played their part.

More recently unemployment has to have had its effect, especially on the young and on children growing up in families where the parents have no work and no hope of work. The rapid advance of new technology, desirable though it may be, is likely increasingly to add to pressures of the social upheaval we are experiencing. The growth of more technological policing has created a certain gap between the police and the people.

Thus those who claim these problems will be solved by capital punishment, corporal punishment, longer and harder prison sentences and more prison building are deluding themselves and misleading the public. We have more convicted prisoners per head of population than any other European country. Our prisons are filled to bursting, though not with violent offenders or even burglars. Over half of those imprisoned on any one day are locked up for non-violent offences other than burglary.

As Lord Lane said in the House of Lords on March 24 "... neither police nor courts nor prison can solve the problem of the rising crime rate. By the time that the criminal falls into the hands of the police, and more particularly by the time that he reaches court, it is too late."

Instead of allowing the debate to be dominated by calls for harsher penalties and longer prison sentences the Government should initiate a programme of crime prevention. They should look in detail at what has been achieved so far, they should build on the work already done by various organisations, including Nacro (National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders), in reducing vandalism, crime and fear of crime on poorly designed and neglected housing estates.

The present position should be changed so that the Home Office is enabled directly to fund a wide range of crime prevention schemes. Finally, the Home Secretary should look again at his decision to impose a standstill on new funding for community run schemes that keep offenders out of further trouble.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. G. CHRISTOPHER,
Chairman,
CHARLES IRVING,
Vice-Chairman,
Nacro,
169 Clapham Road, SW9.

Computer generation

From Simon G. Bull
Sir, Much of the content of Henry Fairlie's report (April 14) will come as no surprise to many parents in this country who are now confronted with an older problem in a new form.

More precisely, mention of the first television generation recalls the domestic discord that often arose when children wished to view one programme on television whilst their parents wished to view another. For those who do not solve this problem by purchasing additional television sets a new dimension has been added — the home computer.

The sibling rivalry to which Henry Fairlie refers is now seen in the form of competition between the elder children who wish to use the television set to display interminable programmes that they have devised for the home computer — often, ostensibly, in connection with their school work — and the younger generation who wish to use the same equipment to play computerised games of which some, at least, seem to have educational value.

Even if the teachers quoted are right, one presumes the sibling gap can never be less than nine months.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON G. BULL,
Oakwood,
37 Island Road,
Sturry,
Canterbury,
Kent,
April 14.

Doctor at large

From Dr A.C. Chamier
Sir, It seems to me that discussion about the length of time taken for postgraduate students to complete their PhD theses is useless. In present circumstances, my experiences lead me to believe that it is unprofitable to embark upon postgraduate studies at all. My husband gave up a career in diplomacy in 1971 so that I could remain at home with our children, once school for a career in scientific research, preferably as a university don.

I spent two years studying for the relevant A levels; three years to obtain a first-class degree in Botany; and then the strength of a personal grant from a research council, three years to complete a PhD thesis on a physiological aspect of biodegradation — an area of research within the scope of biotechnology.

Since completion, 16 months ago, I have tried to find work either as a lecturer or as a research worker, without success. The universities have stopped recruiting staff; funds for research have been cut; I lack the experience to compete with those of my own age and those positions for which my experience qualifies me are invariably limited to candidates between the ages 25-35. For many other jobs I would be prepared to undertake, I am considered overqualified. At

Mental Health Bill

From Lady Bingley and others
Sir, In 1975, following the MIND publication, *A Human Mind*, you wrote: "The report partly if not fully makes out its case that the Mental Health Act, 1959, shows too many traces of paternalism of an earlier day". The Mental Health (Amendment) Bill marks the end of an important era in MIND's history — we are delighted to see that some two thirds of its recommendations are based on our original proposals. At the same time, we have brought a series of successful cases before the European Court of Human Rights, which have resulted in substantial amendments to the Bill.

We agree with your leader (March 31) that the Bill will remove much of the paternalism in the existing statute, but do not agree with some of its conclusions. The leader would ap-

UN influence in a Falklands solution

From Mr Donald Hall
Sir, As one of those remaining who worked on the foundations of the United Nations, may I urge agreement to a peace force if such is proposed. Too often we have by our indifference undermined the influence of a body created for the very purpose of resolving such crises as the present one.

The United Nations through the Security Council, as well as the EEC and members of the Commonwealth, have recognised the justice of our cause, and the absolute need to assert that aggression must not pay. The United States' good offices, somewhat ungraciously regarded, have so far preserved peace.

But while acknowledging all this we must be honest with ourselves, we, no less than the Argentines, are fearful of losing face — even, it seems, prepared to let loose a war as futile as any in history, and of which no bounds can be foreseen, for the sake of it.

A United Nations peace force enables both parties to withdraw from the lethal position in which they have placed themselves, and possibly the rest of the world. Our assertion of sovereignty would be in no way prejudiced, and the support we have already received, it would tend to be confirmed. At all events it would give pause while the future of the Falklands is calmly deliberated. Moreover, it would protect the sovereignty of the United Nations which is so important for the peace of the world.

We might also remember, in connection with our not very shining sovereignty over those islands, that the sovereignty of nations is the prime cause of war and consequent misery: it has nothing to do with patriotism, which is love of one's country.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD HALL,
Wilcock Grange,
Finstock,
Oxfordshire,
April 17.

From Professor B. A. Wortley, O.C.
Sir, Mr William Douglas-Home made a most important point, in your issue of April 8, with regard to the protection of civilians from military operations.

The Argentine and the United Kingdom have accepted the Geneva Convention of 1949, article 4 of which defines protected persons as "those who, at a given moment and in any manner whatsoever, find themselves, in the case of conflict, under the control of the hands of a party to the conflict or occupying power of which they are not nationals". By article 14 these Powers may "establish in their own territory and, if the need arises in occupied areas, safety zones and localities of refuge for the civilian population of wounded, sick and aged persons, children under 15, expectant mothers and mothers of children over 7".

Article 17 provides for "local agreements for the removal from besieged or encircled areas of wounded, sick, infirm and aged persons, children and maternity cases, ministers of all religions, medical personnel etc.". The 1977 Protocol to the Red Cross Convention is not yet binding as a treaty on the UK or the Argentine, but it does represent a long tradition of international law based on Christian charity when, in article 57(1), it declares: "In the conduct

of military operations, constant care shall be taken to spare the civilian population, civilians and civilian objects".

Those conducting military operations would be lawfully following this tradition, whether acting unilaterally, or by agreement, if they granted immediate safe conducts and provided safety zones for all civilians who wished to leave areas where battle is likely to occur. Such exercise of lawful military discretion would help and not hinder any ultimate legal settlement, and might save many innocent lives.

Yours faithfully,
B. A. WORTLEY,
24 Cavendish Lane,
Wimborne,
Dorset,
April 14.

From the General Secretary of the Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association

Sir, The article by John Chartres about the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (April 8) was both informative and timely. No many people know of the existence of this Government-owned fleet, manned by Merchant Navy personnel, whose purpose is to support the Royal Navy in whatever task is assigned to it.

The present emergency has shown that the RFA has already been reduced below a level at which it can fully support the Royal Navy, and various merchant ships have had to be pressed into service with, in some cases, the possibility that foreign operators will move into the commercial slots which had been nurtured by the owners and the crews of these ships.

The British-registered merchant fleet is declining and in the future Britain may be faced with the humiliating experience of using ships whose loyalties are to a foreign power, to support the Royal Navy.

Even bareboat chartering of such ships will be a view to maintaining them with British crews may be denied us. The number of recruits in the Merchant Navy has declined dramatically in the last two years — to such an extent that on present predictions there will not be enough qualified seafarers in only a few years' time to man the diminished fleet of merchant vessels.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC NEVIN,
General Secretary,
The Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association,
Oceanair House,
750-760, High Road,
Leightonstone, E11,
April 14.

From Dr Alan Sanderson

Sir, The sight of the venerable-looking Mr Anderson telling the world the private conversation of President Reagan and Mr Haig (report, April 17) troubled me deeply. What is the proper distinction between publicizing stolen tapes and receiving stolen goods?

Journalists today are in a position of influence equal to that of the Church in the Middle Ages. Newspapers and television provide models for the public to model their behaviour on what they read and see.

Do journalists realise their awesome responsibility? Yours faithfully,
ALAN SANDERSON,
2 Caroline Close, W2,
April 17.

Ominous developments

From Mr Richard Wilson
Sir, In spite of his pretended innocence (feature, April 14) Mr Heseltine knows that it is easier for district councils to tempt developers into the rising middle class to cover Britain's green fields with bricks and concrete than to settle down to deal with the problem of redeveloping our cities and derelict land.

He should legislate to limit the massive powers local authorities now have to choose the easy option. But would the regenerated cities vote Tory, and would his Tory district councillors still love him?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WILSON,
32 Fentiman Road, SW8,
April 14.

Tibetan deforestation

From Mr Paul Ingram
Sir, I read with interest an item (April 7) which dealt with the widespread deforestation projects on the Indian side of the Himalayas, with consequent human suffering and severe ecological damage to the areas involved.

Such deforestation is not, alas, confined to one side of the Himalayas. The Chinese too are rapidly deforesting huge areas of the old Tibet (the provinces of Kham and Amdo) which they annexed in their invasion of 1950. This was observed by the second Betanung delegation sent by the Dalai Lama's government in exile at the invitation of the Chinese government. (See *Tibet News Review*, Winter 1980/81). In these areas some 65,000 people are employed in intensive lumbering. Whole hillsides have been devastated and day and night rivers are full of logs being sent down river to China.

In these regions there was once a flourishing wildlife, bears, wolves, wild geese and ducks, black-necked cranes and fish-eagles, together with great herds of deer and gazelles. They have all been practically exterminated.

Man's inhumanity to man and to nature seems without limit. Yours faithfully,
PAUL INGRAM, Secretary,
Scientific Buddhist Association,
30 Hollingbourne Gardens, W13.

Question: mark over orchestral visit

From Mr John McCabe
Sir, The arguments about the proposed visit to London in 1983 of the Los Angeles Philharmonic to give us a Brahms cycle have, so far as I know, not mentioned the complete absence of American music from the programmes, a lack which is implicit in the basic scheme.

It seems to me quite extraordinary for an American orchestra to consider giving a series of concerts in Britain without enabling us to hear a note of American music. There are, after all, plenty of first-rate pieces which have already made a fine impression over here and which deserve more frequent exposure as part of the symphonic repertoire, especially in performances by such major artists, who could present the works to their best advantage.

To miss such an opportunity would be to deprive audiences of an excellent chance of widening their musical horizons, and of depriving American composers of increased access to audiences which have already (though perhaps too infrequently) been able to enjoy their works.

It would also continue the current pernicious process of reducing the number of repertoire works which, through over-exposure, might be in grave danger of losing their essential meaning.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MCCABE,
49 Burns Avenue,
Southall,
Middlesex,
April 15.

From Miss Susan M. Alcock

Sir, Bryan Appleyard's article (April 12) and Robert Spencer's letter (April 14) oblige me to make an attempt to spell out the ISM view of Mr Jasper Parrott's present campaign.

First of all let us have the situation in perspective. Why is Mr Parrott creating such a fuss about the Los Angeles Philharmonic and now Mr Andras Schiff? Mr Appleyard failed to report the main point which I made to him last week — namely that Jasper Parrott has a strong commercial interest in this matter.

Apparently we, the Visiting Orchestras' Consultative Association and others are accused of depriving the British public of the right to hear distinguished foreign artists. The reverse is true. We all want to enjoy the best from abroad. That is why a generous scheme has evolved over at least 40 years to allow foreign artists to come here with the minimum of restriction. Other countries also operate controls. It is ridiculous to regard the rules, of which Mr Parrott is so impatient, as an affront to freedom. To preserve freedom some controls have to exist to prevent distortion and unfairness.

Are all these careful guidelines to be thrown over to suit Mr Parrott's commercial interest?

Yours sincerely,
SUSAN M. ALCOCK, General Secretary,
Incorporated Society of Musicians,
10 Stratford Place, W1,
April 15.

Surgeon's hungry allies

From Sir Anthony Alment
Sir, At the 1951 Festival of Britain Exhibition there was shown a Temperament Prognosticator (letter, April 17) from the 1851 Great Exhibition. Each of 12 leeches (I think that was the number) ascended a separate glass tube from the wet sandy bottom of a large glass jar.

The impact of 12 leeches arriving simultaneously at the top caused a small bell to ring, presumably audible in the calm before the storm. Was it a joke, I wonder?

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY ALMENT,
Winston House,
Boughton,
Northampton,
April 17.



Standard Chartered

Bank PLC



1980

Comments by the Chairman, The Rt. Hon. Lord Barber

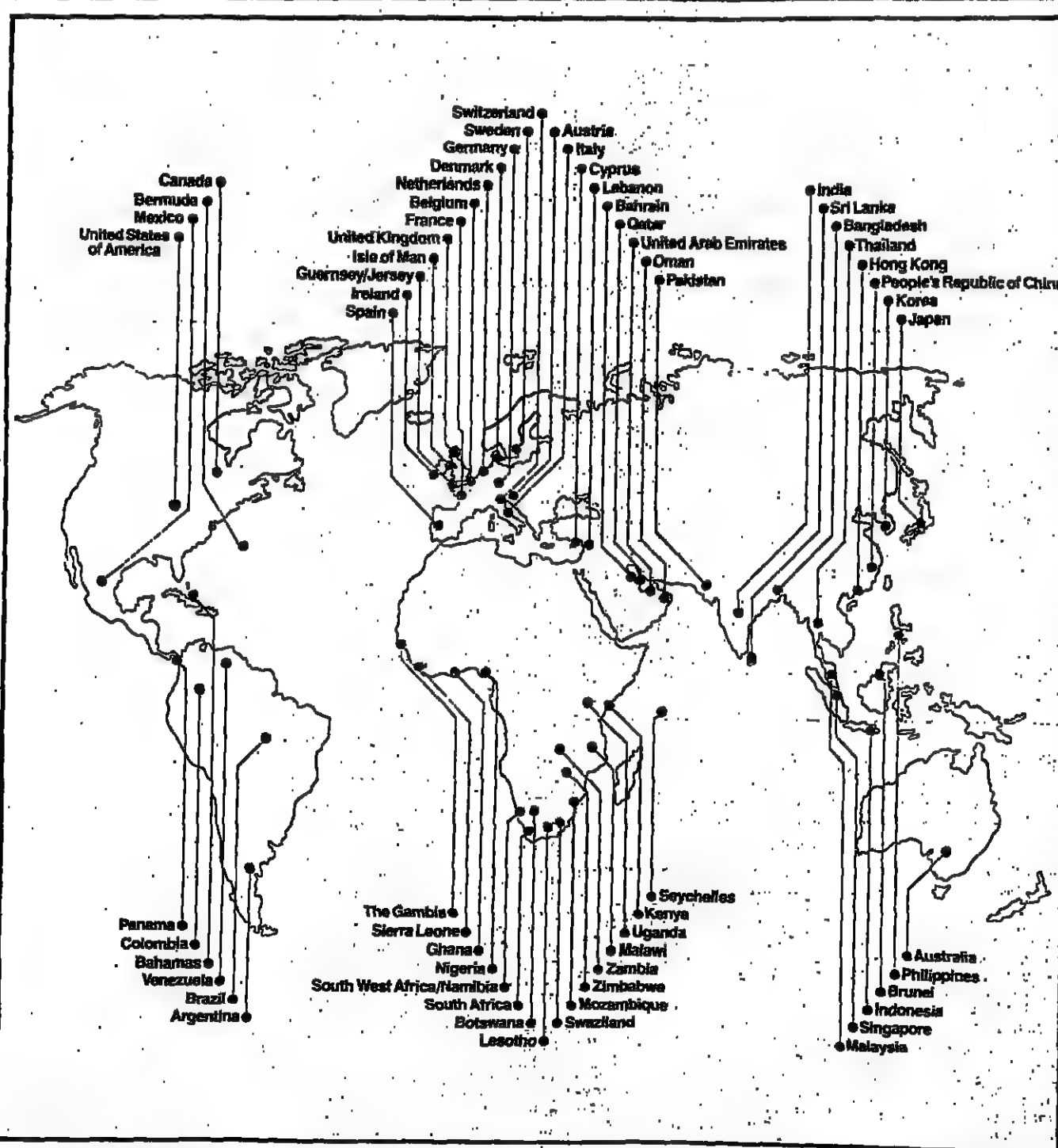
Profits before taxation up 12%
Earnings per share up 24%
Dividend up 14%

Shareholders' Funds now
£1,023 million
Total Assets now
£19,822 million

Profits before taxation for the year ended 31st December 1981 amounted to £260 million, compared with £233 million the year before. The net profit attributable to shareholders, after deducting taxation and minority interests, was £135 million or 156 pence per share. The total dividend proposed for the year is 37 pence per share.

The triennial valuation of group properties resulted in a net surplus of £234 million, which has been added to group reserves, and the total of shareholders' funds at the end of 1981 amounted to £1,023 million. The directors have recommended a bonus issue of one fully paid ordinary share for each two ordinary shares currently held, after which the issued capital of the bank will amount to £130 million.

In commercial banking the group's strong domestic banking systems in Africa produced very satisfactory results and the branch operations of The Chartered Bank in the East sustained their profitable contributions. The newer group branches in Europe



1,500 offices in 60 countries
around the world.

achieved a significant increase in earnings, as did the international and treasury divisions in London, both of which made record profits. Group merchant banks had a

good year. The instalment finance companies in Britain and South Africa were adversely affected by interest movements on their fixed rate lending as was Union Bank in

California.

During the twelve years since the Standard Chartered Bank group was created, we have developed new commercial banking operations in the metropolitan market places of Europe and North America to complement our traditional branch networks in Africa and the East. At the same time we have used the strength of our balance sheet to make acquisitions in related financial services companies, as well as to invest in the Mocatta group of companies and to undertake the purchase of Union Bank in California.

While not all these developments are yet making a satisfactory contribution, we have endeavoured to secure a foothold in most of the banking market places that are open to us in the free world and to develop the experience and skills that will ensure a worthwhile business for us in the future.

With the strength provided by the diversified structure and operations of the Standard Chartered group, we are well placed to maintain progress.

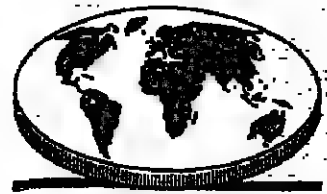
Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts and of the Chairman's Statement may be obtained from: The Secretary, 10 Clements Lane London EC4N 7AB

The bank with experience the world over

BUSINESS
INTERVIEW
ITALY
Governments move shield
FRANCE
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SAUDI ARABIA
PHILIPPINES
APPOINTMENT
DARES E
Rent boost profit
Higher re
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BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

INTERNATIONAL



ITALY

Government moves to shield lira

The Italian Government has tightened regulations for foreign trade payments, to protect the lira after a black 2,038,000 (£386m) balance of payments deficit in March, which brought the deficit for January-March to 3,433,000m.

The Ministry of foreign trade announced a batch of measures to reduce the possibilities for delayed payment of exports and for advance payment of imports. The period in which foreign currency may be held in accounts before conversion into lire is cut from 15 to 7 days.

Among other measures, exports must be paid within 60 instead of 120 days, while it is forbidden to settle imports in advance of dates stipulated in contracts.

FRANCE

France's gross domestic product will expand about 2 per cent in 1982, slightly less than the official target but higher than the near flat growth recorded last year, according to the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

SWITZERLAND

Switzerland's March trade deficit narrowed to Sfr502.5m (£146.9m) from 798.8m in March last year. In February the deficit was Sfr370.7m.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia could reduce its oil production to 5 million barrels a day from the present 7 million without hurting its own economy, Alawi Darwish Kayal, Saudi Minister of Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs, told European business heads at a management forum, in Geneva.

PHILIPPINES

Developing Asian countries gave a "generally satisfactory" economic performance in 1981, but face a growing need for foreign financing to maintain their development momentum for the rest of the decade, the Asian Development Bank says in its 1981 annual report in Manila.

APPOINTMENTS

Mr T. F. (Tom) James, chairman of the William Moss Group, has stepped down as chairman of the group's main subsidiary, William Moss (Construction), to succeed Mr John Bower as chairman and chief executive and Mr Bob Baker, managing director of the Moss Liverpool branch, became deputy chairman.

Mr Geoffrey Walker will become managing director of Stephens Shipping, the shipowning subsidiary of Powell Duffryn, on January 1 1983. He will succeed Mr Graham Stafford, who retires on December 31 1982, having served the company for more than 46 years.

Mr R K Martin has been appointed to the board of The Distillers Company. He was previously managing director of Elgin, and he presently holds a senior position in Distillers' Edinburgh Whisky production organization.

Mr A V Alexander has been elected chairman of the British Insurance Brokers' Association, which succeeds Mr H F Findlay, who retires on May 11. Mr Alexander, who is currently a deputy chairman of the BIBA is a director of Sedgwick Group.

DARES ESTATES

Rentals boost profits

Higher rental income and a larger number of property deals helped to boost profits of Birmingham-based development and investment group Dares Estates in the year to last December. Pre-tax profits were more than doubled at £853,000, while net profits jumped to £1m from £113,000 last time after the sale of the group's housebuilding subsidiary last September.

Trading profits, which cover most of the group's development and investment activities, were £315,000 against a loss of £37,000, while dealing contributed £538,000. Turnover rose by almost 50 per cent to £7.4m. The dividend for the year is 1.78p gross, against 1.61p, while earnings per share have advanced from 1.52p to 2.75p. On the current share price Dares has a p/e ratio of about 7.5 and a net asset value of 28p per share.

Mr David Sid, managing director, says it is too early to give any indication of how the present year is proceeding. The group has embarked

System X: plugging in at last?



British Telecom is facing two major challenges: the constant problem posed by worldwide technological advancement and the domestic challenge posed by the Government's intention to liberalize the telephone system. Here BILL JOHNSTONE assesses the potential of British Telecom's digital telephone exchange, System X. Foreign systems have already been sold abroad, but Britain has yet to sign its first contract. Below CLIVE COOKSON explains how British Telecom has the telephone receiver market to itself despite a move to introduce private competition.



Industry Secretary Patrick Jenkin...hoping for successful link-up with China.

The possibility that the British manufacturers of the electronic digital telephone exchange System X might at last sell one of their networks overseas has elicited the system's designers and, for the moment, silenced their critics.

Standard Telephones and Cables (STC) has made the breakthrough by getting the Chinese Authorities in Guang Dong province to test a small exchange which is expected to be the forerunner of a multi-million pound contract.

There might also be sales in Portugal, India, China, Colombia, Libya and the Caribbean if all goes well. But contracts in these areas are being contested by the designers of System X against fierce competition.

The major telecommunication equipment manufacturers like the French Thomson-CSF and CIT Alcatel, the German company Siemens, the American companies Western Electric, ITT and Northern Telecom and the Japanese manufacturers Nippon Electric Company (NEC), Hitachi and Fujitsu represent the principal competition for overseas contracts.

Foreign rivals of the British system have captured almost £20m in sales in the high street at Philips, Thomson and Alcatel in Iraq, Alcatel in Bahrain, NEC and Ericsson in Malaysia, NEC-Hitachi in Argentina, Western Electric in Iran and Thomson in Russia.

How good is the technology and how does the British product compare with that of its overseas competitors?

Since System X was conceived in the early 1970s almost £20m has been spent on its development. It has been the subject of much criticism particularly directed at the marketing efforts which have produced no overseas sales.

The three manufacturers — GEC, Plessey and STC — in conjunction with British Telecom developed the system. It will replace local and trunk exchanges in the UK before the end of the decade giving many facilities previously only available on small private systems. Answering facilities and the ability to re-

route telephone calls on request, along with itemised billing, some of the options which will be available with System X exchanges.

General opinion is that the technology is as good as most of its competitors but the success of tenders for overseas contracts may depend not on the technology but on the finance made available for the purchase, particularly in the Third World.

In order to sell the technology overseas successfully it was necessary for it to be installed and operating in the United Kingdom. British Telecom embarked on the

first phase of a 10-year programme for installing British Telecom exchanges around Britain by opening a junction exchange in London in 1980. The following year, in August, 1981, a local exchange based on the System X design was installed at Woodbridge, Suffolk, which in turn was followed by the installation of a trunk exchange in Cambridge and another local exchange near by at Arrington.

Two more exchanges are expected to be completed this year — one junction exchange in Liverpool and another local exchange in

Drighlington near Leeds.

By the end of the decade British Telecom will have spent more than £1,500m installing System X equipment. The old electro-mechanical switching exchanges using what is called a Strowger design will be replaced by electronic units where each telephone call, or message, transmitted over telephone lines is represented by a series of pulses of electricity. These digital signals travel at high speed and produce few errors.

Most of the criticism levelled at the System X designers has been that the

technology is too old and too late. The basic design however is expected to evolve and to be developed.

It was originally designed for the British market and those areas in the world which would adopt British technical standards and methods of operating such systems. But the intention has always been to exploit the export potential of the design.

To that end the four partners in the System X venture formed a marketing company in 1979 called British Telecommunications Systems Limited which was to do all the marketing planning for selling the technology outside the United Kingdom, excluding Europe and America.

The initial idea was to concentrate on the Third World markets and then later to consider competing in other areas. The idea at first appeared sound. Britain still had plenty of business connections based on previous Commonwealth trading agreements and it seemed sensible to exploit them. Also, System X would require major design improvements if it were to be sold in America and to a lesser degree if sold in most countries in Europe.

However, a recent study commissioned by the Department of Industry and conducted by consultants Communication Studies and Planning highlighted the point that the Third World is more interested in aid than trade and as a consequence a financial package could be crucial to any tender.

The report surprisingly concluded that America and Europe were potential markets for sales of the British digital system. However, more than £16m needs to be spent on the system for it to compete in Europe and America. The CS&P study was meant to gauge the export potential of the design in the wake of the manufacturers' request for funding to finance development.

The Government is still studying the findings of the report which it has yet to publish. It has not decided whether to agree to finance the technical enhancement programme for System X.

Makers miss the call

Last November, British Telecom agreed to allow four models of telephone to go on sale in the high street at private phone shops. BT said nothing about the agreement, nor did the four British manufacturers concerned: the job of publicising it was left to Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Information Technology, and his civil servants at the Department of Industry, who had persuaded the corporation to allow this small chink in its monopoly in advance of this year's "liberalization" programme.

Now, four months later, that historic moment when consumers can buy phones privately and attach them legally to the BT network has still not arrived. The four manufacturers — GEC, STC, Plessey and Thorn-EMI — tell their phones exclusively to BT and they refuse to supply private shops.

Since the New Year, BT itself has been opening innovative "phoneshops" without department stores in major provincial cities. Eleven are already in business, five will be starting up this month, and by the middle of next year the corporation will be running a nationwide chain of about 100 phoneshops. With their bright, specially recruited sales force, they represent BT's new competitive face — and it is quite a change from the old monopoly image, typified by the surly characters

who employed to tell customers how many months they must wait before BT can provide them with service.

BT phoneshops are stocked with 25 different models of telephone, most now avail-

able for outright sale (though a few can only be rented) and most made in Britain or, if not in Europe, at least in a country which is a member of the European Community.

At the same time, private phone shops — ranging from major stores like Harrods and Selfridges to small independent shops such as the Telephone Box in Chelsea

will be able to submit models for testing (for a minimum fee of about £1,700 for each version). If they pass, the company can stick on a green "approved" mark and sell them freely.

Mr Baker says the British manufacturers' failure so far to put any of their phones on private sale is "extremely disappointing". He is furious with them for spurning the Government's attempts to give them a legal head start over the illegal imports in the private shops.

The Department of Industry fears that the independent sector will continue to be dominated by the importers when it becomes legal and ministers and civil servants are currently twisting the British manufacturers' arms to make them supply private shops. Asked about its intentions, GEC will say only that it is "actively considering the market".

The manufacturers have tried hard to avoid making public comment about their loyalty to BT. However, at a recent briefing for the trade press, senior executives of TMC, the British-based telecommunications subsidiary of Philips, could not escape a barrage of questions about the Government's policy for the so-called DXT.

BT will buy 1.2m DXTs from TMC, GEC and Plessey during the first year of production (starting this summer) for just under £24m. But none will be available for private sale. Anyone who wants an DXT must buy or rent from BT.

"We favour the relaxation of (BT's) monopoly," Mr Jim Greenfield, commercial director of TMC, says. But when we look at the market-

place we must decide how we can best market our products. We still think that at the moment our best route to the market lies with British Telecom."

TMC executives believe the Government is anxious to fill the high street with British-made phones for political reasons — to give the public early and visible evidence that the Government's telecommunications liberalization programme is working.

Of course, the availability of the new electronic phones is likely to boost the number of extensions rapidly (more than half of the homes in the United Kingdom have more than one phone). But the British manufacturers believe BT can grab the lion's share of the growth, by offering customers service and maintenance that no private competitor can hope to match.

Remember that "liberalization" will leave BT with the absolute right to supply every household with its first phone. Nearly 15m homes have a phone connection and five in six have only one phone. That gives BT automatic control over 80 per cent of the present residential market.

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If so, it makes no sense for manufacturers to risk upsetting BT, and perhaps losing some of the corporation's huge orders, by selling a relatively small number of phones through the high



Snoopy and Mickey Mouse...brought to you by British Telecom.

street minnows that are nibbling away at the fringes of the market.

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Business Editor

Signs of hope stir market

Financial markets tend to read the economic runes well enough. But judging the course of politics is generally not their forte. Hence their confusion over the Falklands crisis. Yesterday long gills turned half-point to marginal rises by the close and share prices recovered sharply.

The justification for the changed sentiment was the hope of a negotiated settlement of the crisis under the auspices of the United Nations. If there is agreement before the fleet arrives in the Falklands, the stock market could bound by 20 or 30 points and gills might resume their upward trend which was halted by the Argentine invasion.

The technical position for both shares and gills is strong. Institutional money has stayed on the sidelines and short positions abound. The fundamentals also look good with monetary growth only 0.2 per cent up last month, wholesale prices pointing to lower inflation, and a 1981/2 Public Sector Borrowing Requirement of perhaps £9,500m expected to be announced on Thursday, an undershoot of £1,000m.

But despite the belief there is some light at the end of the Falklands tunnel, markets fear that the credibility of the Prime Minister might take a knock should talk of the stock market retreating after a sharp recovery because of concern over the run up to the election. A day is a long time in the markets, 18 months, as someone said, is an eternity in politics.

Through the overall costs of collection work out at 2p for every £1 which goes to the Exchequer, the collection costs from businesses with sales less than £20,000 can be as high as 50p per £1 according to the small business lobby.

Customs can hardly be satisfied with existing procedures either. Registered traders can expect a visit from their VAT inspectors once every three years, and in the 340,000 control visits in 1980/1981, inspectors discovered under-declarations amounting to £416m.

The working party is scheduled to report its findings on how the European Commission handles the administration of the tax by the autumn. It intends to have its recommendations considered for inclusion in next year's finance bill.

One useful starting point for the inquiry is the French system for small businesses where traders and VAT inspectors sit down together and agree a prospective level of turnover, and thus an agreed tax liability for the year.

House prices Measured rise

Spring in the housing market has sprung very suddenly this year with a surprising surge of interest from homebuyers even greater than the normal seasonal upturn.

House prices are showing their first rises since July of last year and the latest survey from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors reveals increases of up to 5 per cent in some areas, on new properties, and the "benchmark" pre-1919 terraced houses which underpin the market.

The appalling winter kept buyers at home but the sudden change in the weather, coupled with the cut in mortgage rates have combined to revive interest.

Average house prices have declined steadily since last summer from just over £25,000 to £23,552 in February of this year.

The market therefore has to show a rise of between 8 and 9 per cent simply to restore house prices to their levels of last summer.

Building societies report more promises to homebuyers during March at an all-time high of £1,491 million and the likelihood is that the official figures for average house prices will also show a significant improvement.

But both the building societies and the Chartered Surveyors believe that in spite of homebuyers' sudden burst of enthusiasm and the easy availability of home loans, house prices will increase by around 5 to 9 per cent over the year.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Gross	Vid	%	Actual	P/E	Yield
130	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	73	—	10.0	7.8	—	—	—	—	—
75	62	Airspur Group	128	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	—	—	16.0	—
51	33	Armstrong & Rhodes	44	—	4.3	9.8	3.7	—	—	8.3	—
205	187	Barndon Hill	198	—	9.7	4.9	9.6	11.7	—	—	—
107	100	OCL 11% Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—	—	—	—
104	61	Deborah Services	62	+1	6.0	9.7	3.1	—	—	5.8	—
131	97	Frank Horsell	126	—	6.4	5.1	11.4	23.3	—	—	—
83	39	Frederick Parker	74	-1	8.6	8.5	3.8	7.2	—	—	—
78	46	George Blair	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	83	Ind Prec Castings	95	—	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4	—	—	—
100	100	Isis Conv Pref	108	-1	15.7	14.5	—	—	—	—	—
113	104	Jackson Group	96	—	7.0	7.3	3.0	6.8	—	—	—
130	108	James Burroughs	113	-1	6.7	7.7	8.2	10.4	—	—	—
334	240	Robert Jenkins	243	—	5.3	13.0	8.3	4.5	—	—	—
64	51	Scrummings	64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
222	159	Torrey & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5	—	—	—
15	10	Twinklind Ord	134	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	65	Twinklind 15% ULS	80	—	15.0	18.8	—	—	—	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6	—	—	—
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	—	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2	—	—	—
263	212	W. S. Yates	230	—	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.0	—	—	—

Prices now available on Prestel page 48188

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds	13%
C. Hoare & Co	13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £100,000 and over 11.5%
£50,000 and over 11.5%
£20,000 and over 11.5%

WEEKS PETROLEUM

Boardroom row

The board of Weeks Petroleum will meet today to consider an opposition proxy statement by two substantial shareholders, one the son of the group's founder, who are seeking substantial policy changes and a "meaningful dividend policy".

Mr L Austin Weeks and Mr Paul Temple, Weeks's first managing director, are nominating an opposition slate of directors to be considered at the AGM on April 28, consisting of six current directors and five others, each of whom is familiar with the company.

Mr Arthur Nedom, managing director, is to resign and the Weeks board is urging shareholders to take no action until it makes a further statement.

WALTER LAWRENCE

Building up

Strong performances in contracting, housing and development helped industrial holding group Walter Lawrence to a record pre-tax profit of £1.93m in the year to December, 35 per cent above the previous year. Turnover slipped from £64.23m to £63.37m. Dividends rise by 10 per

CD BRAMALL

Sales drive

CD Bramall, the Bradford-based Ford car dealers, increased pretax profits by 26 per cent from £1.67m to £2.1m for the year to December 1981.

Sales were up by 41 per cent at £43.5 against £30.8m last year. Stock market approval for this performance led to the shares rising 6p to a new annual high of 117p.

The dividend has been increased to 5.64p gross from 5p, making a total payout for the year of 8.57p gross, against 7.9p gross last time.

Bramall, which operates in

Paisley, Warrington and Shipley as Ford agents, and has a recently acquired Vauxhall/Bedford/Opel franchise in Sheffield reports that the year's sales amounted to 25.1p per share against 24.9p last time.

Mr Tony Bramall, chairman, said that higher volume in the group's contract hire, leasing and hire purchase operations contributed to the increase in turnover. This is also the first time there has been a full 12 months contribution from the Paisley-based Clancord Notors.

The tax charge rose from £388,000 to £788,000, while net profits after tax stand at £1.32m against £1.28m. Dividends absorbed £253,000 this year.

LATEST RESULTS

Company or Firm	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
C. D. Bramall (F)	43,530.81	2,111.87	25.1(24.9)	3.93(5.5)	26/5	6(5.55)
Brit. Polyphane (F)	58,755.53	0,780.77(8)	—	—	—	—
Brit. Silica (F)	45,455.53	0,291(0.77)	—	—	—	—
Burnage Sales (F)	—	1,110.14	0,56(0.72)	0,50(0.7)	—	0,50(0.7)
Currys (F)	279,328.11	11,212.22	19,822.6	4,23(7.8)	7/6	4,84(5.6)
Dares Eats. (F)	7,425.0	5,444.46	0,86(0.54)	2,75(5.2)	—	1,21(1.1)
Headman, Sims (F)	1,721.9	0,088(0.11)	7,011(0.28)	1,60(0.84)	—	2,64(1.54)
Headways (F)	4,294.6	0,55(0.08)	—	—	—	—
Highland Elect. (F)	1,180(9.17)	1,134(1.18)	31,232.4	—	—	—
Int. Thomson (F)	63,354.2	1,841.35	33,237.3	5,75(5)	2/7	8,25(7.5)
J. Lawrence (F)	6,339.1	0,40(3.8)	13,511(3.9)	2(2)	2/8	3,53(5.5)
Notas (F)	6,339.1	0,40(3.8)	—	1,21(2.1)	4/6	1,21(2.1)
Tele. Loads (F)	17,014.4	0,510(3.9)	—	5,75(4)	—	5,56(5.25)
Ad. Friendly (F)	—	3,132.79	—	—	—	—

Controlled expansion in line with our strategy

A year ago we announced the new emphasis being given to controlled expansion. We have made a satisfactory start towards achieving our targets, notwithstanding the severe action we felt it necessary to take in Canada and Australia. In both the US and the UK, our two largest territories, premiums increased by over 15% enabling us to achieve real growth without sacrificing sound underwriting principles.

Changes in presentation of the accounts

The general insurance profit has been struck after adding to the underwriting balance that part of the investment income allocated to the general insurance funds. We believe that this way of reporting our business accords with the realities of the market place and gives shareholders a clearer understanding of the return derived from our insurance operations.

Dividend

As we have said in the past, one of our prime objectives is to pursue a progressive dividend policy and we are adhering to this course whilst at the same time taking into account the need to retain profits to support the growth, both real and inflationary, in our business.

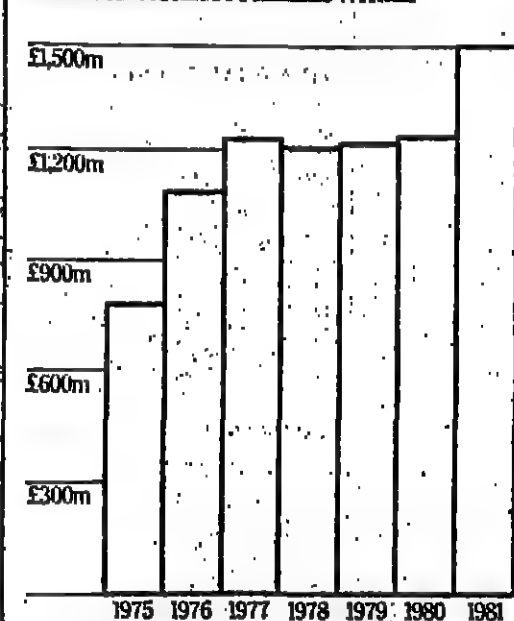
Insurance Company taxation

Under present tax law all additions to insurance companies' free reserves have to be made out of fully taxed earnings. Unlike industrial and other commercial concerns we receive no tax relief for the effect of inflation. We feel it would be equitable for UK insurance companies, as successful operators in world markets benefiting the economy through their overseas earnings, to qualify for some alleviation of tax towards mitigating the effect of inflation on the maintenance of their capital resources.

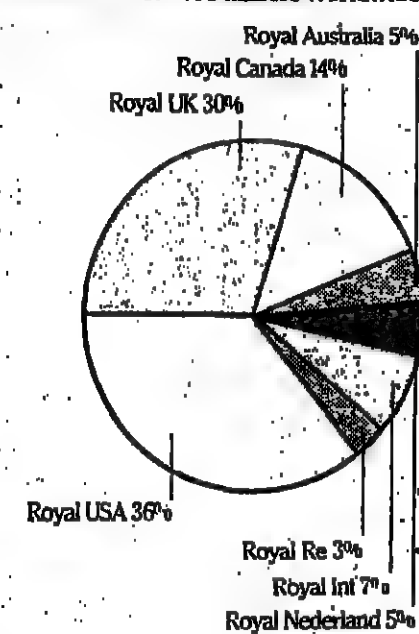
Summary of Results

	1981 £m	1980 £m
General Insurance		
Premiums Written	1,489.9	1,241.7
Underwriting Balance	-102.9	-40.3
Investment Income allocated to General Insurance operations	152.3	113.3
General Insurance Profit	49.4	73.0
Long-term Insurance Profit	12.1	10.0
Investment Income attributable to Capital and Reserves	49.0	33.0
Share of Associated Companies' Profits	7.0	6.2
Profit before Taxation	117.5	122.2
Less Taxation	44.9	50.4
Minority Interests	0.9	0.9
Net Profit attributable to the Shareholders	71.7	70.9
(pence per share)	(38.5p)	(46.2p)
Dividend for the year	47.6	41.7
(pence per share)	(25.25p)	(24.0p)
Transfer to Retained Profits	24.1	29.2

General Insurance Premiums Written



General Insurance Business Worldwide



Our role in the community

We aim to act as responsible members of the communities in which we operate, in the conviction that we should do all we can to foster a stable climate in which to develop our business activities.

As a UK company founded in Liverpool, we are glad to be playing a leading part in the Merseyside initiatives to alleviate youth unemployment and other social problems which arise in inner city areas.

We have substantially increased the number of young people we employ through the Manpower Services Commission both on Merseyside and throughout the United Kingdom. We have also seconded a senior manager to serve with the Merseyside task force and, on a national level, another to serve with the Financial Institutions Group, set up by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

The Future

The difficult trading conditions experienced in 1981 are likely to continue during 1982 and the turning point in some markets may not be reached until 1983.

Meanwhile we continue to maintain a close control over our underwriting operations and in the year ahead we will not hesitate to take strong corrective action wherever necessary. Our overall strategy continues to be to maintain and, where possible, increase our market share where we see profitable opportunities, in order to maximise the return on resources for which we are accountable.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Barbican Centre for Arts and Conferences on the 12th May, 1982.

Royal Insurance

Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London



Please send me a copy of the Report and Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1981.

Name _____

Address _____

To: The Secretary Royal Insurance plc,
Group Head Office, 1 Cornhill, London EC3V 3QR.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

RECEPTIONIST

Are you a mature 30-35 year old person able to fill the position of receptionist for a large, very successful advertising agency? You must be well dressed, possess a good speaking voice and sense of humour, be able to deal with our clients at all levels. Your duties will include booking of travel and car hire arrangements and the operation of a small key and lamp switchboard. Salary negotiable to include a dress allowance. Good holidays (1982 arrangements honoured), the usual large company benefits. Please ring Jo Pearce on 387 5086 for an application form and further details.

12,000 PA—Chairman—a lot of personal work. £7,500++ PA/SEC. — international advertising agency. 100-40.
£2,500 Audio—break, young fun people.
£2,500+ PA—Sec-PA for account execs, good prospects.
Phone Annie Rogers
Brompton Bureau
Ref. 2422 (24 hours)

SECRETARY
Required for City firm of accountants. Short-term contract. No essential and no experience. Happy to accept conditions, usual benefits.
Telephone 248 2500
Reference JLS

La Creme
SECRETARIAL RECRUITMENT
CONSULTANTS
For permanent placements.
01-836 4086

RECEPTIONIST
£2,500
Sports production company needs a confident, well presented, friendly receptionist with a friendly, outgoing personality. Typing essential.

RECEPTIONIST
£5,000
Film production company needs a confident, well presented, friendly receptionist with a friendly, outgoing personality. Typing essential.

SECRETARY
ART NOUVEAU
Bright, cheerful young secretary with a good knowledge of French and a good knowledge of the art nouveau movement. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

THE CONNOISSEUR
Intelligent, experienced Secretary needed for the London office of a leading magazine. The vacancy is on the business and advertising side so it is essential we have a humorous, organised person capable of the day-to-day administration of the office in addition to the normal secretarial duties. Positioning or advertising experience useful. Not suitable for college leaver. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

WELL GROOMED SECRETARY
Required, full time or part time. Good salary + commission. Amber Ltd, 24 Baker St., London, W.1. Tel 486 7785/7.

PR-65,500 Smart outgoing Secretary needed to work for a company in the City. The company is a leading firm in the City and is looking for a Secretary who is confident, well presented, friendly and has a good knowledge of the City. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

STUDENT (awaiting University of London) required as Receptionist. Assistant in essential Solicitors' office with a good knowledge of the City. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

SMALL FIRM of surveyors in the City. The company is a leading firm in the City and is looking for a Secretary who is confident, well presented, friendly and has a good knowledge of the City. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

FULL-TIME competent secretarial service. Homebased. £20,000 p.a. + commission. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

SECRETARIES for Architects and Designers. Permanent/Temporary. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

RECEPTIONIST/TELEPHONIST
Required for public company situated in modern office. City. No experience. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

PART-TIME VACANCIES
DO YOU HAVE some spare hours each week to help people buy their cars? Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

RENTALS
AMERICAN Executive needs luxury flat or house up to £250 p.w. Please ring Beverly Flower on 01-439 0558.

RENTALS

Chestertons
CADOGAN STREET, SW3
House with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 living rooms, 2 dining rooms, 2 kitchens, 2 reception rooms, 2 study rooms, 2 office rooms, 2 garage rooms, 2 carport rooms, 2 driveway rooms, 2 garden rooms, 2 lawn rooms, 2 terrace rooms, 2 patio rooms, 2 balcony rooms, 2 porch rooms, 2 entrance rooms, 2 hall rooms, 2 cloakroom rooms, 2 linen room, 2 store room, 2 utility room, 2 laundry room, 2 bathroom, 2 kitchen, 2 living room, 2 dining room, 2 reception room, 2 study room, 2 office room, 2 garage room, 2 carport room, 2 driveway room, 2 garden room, 2 lawn room, 2 terrace room, 2 patio room, 2 balcony room, 2 porch room, 2 entrance room, 2 hall room, 2 cloakroom room, 2 linen room, 2 store room, 2 utility room, 2 laundry room, 2 bathroom, 2 kitchen, 2 living room, 2 dining room, 2 reception room, 2 study room, 2 office room, 2 garage room, 2 carport room, 2 driveway room, 2 garden room, 2 lawn room, 2 terrace room, 2 patio room, 2 balcony room, 2 porch room, 2 entrance room, 2 hall room, 2 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A thrilling recovery after whip lashing

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Mummy's Game, who suffered the severe disadvantage of Lester Piggott's whip lashing around his face when an unlucky fourth in Newmarket's Free Handicap last week, received quick compensation by winning a thriller in the

Mummy's Game, Jester, and Beldale Lustre matched strides from halfway, Jester, racing in, had only a draw, hung in towards Beldale Lustre in the final furlong, where Mummy's Game, blundered for the first time, squeezed half a length ahead. The victorious trainer, Bill O'Gorman, said: "It's nice to win but it's a shame to have a hard race for no money". The prize was £2,000.

The Newmarket trainer, who fixed Mummy's Game with Binkers to ensure that the colt did not look about him as a result of the Newmarket whipping incident, was the winner for the Gae Dumny Memorial Stakes at Haydock Park on May 29:

Jester is still in the 2,000 Guineas and is earmarked for the Duke of York Stakes at York on May 13.

ES (3-y-o) Maidens: \$966; SD (14)	
EMERALD JAMES 0-0	Lambertson 3
EMERSON 0-0	Reynolds 5
ESSEX Woodbrook 0-0	Shupe 10
EVANCE Holt 0-0	Cook 12
F-H-H-Holt 0-0	Paul Eklund 5 14
GALE Hutter 0-0	Reber 8
GLENN Whigham 0-0	Thompson 10
HC Hofmann 0-0	Park 17
HR Turner 0-11	J. Menzer 4
IRVING 0-11	Wagner 11
JOE Holt 0-11	Wagner 9
WINDLE D Hanes 0-11	Hals 5 7
BY C James 0-11	" 2
TODAY	
	Cochran 4
JERRY GAMES, 4 Naughty Twinkles, 3-2	
12 Clocks, 14 Others.	

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Crack 8-11	Cook	6
Mrs C Lloyd	Charles E	7
CRACKER Wriste 9-6	Lanchbury	1
CHESTER J Smith 9-6	Paul Edmonds	4
ALLIK Wriste 9-6	Lesison	7
W. H. Smith 9-6	Forsyth	2
N. O. Hall 9-8	Taylor	3
Whitman Cracker, 4 Delight, 7 Somersetts.		

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Correspondent

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	7	390	DUMBGLASS	8-11-7
	1	244	MARSHAL KING	8-11-3
	1	113	GREY DOLOPHIN	7-11-1
	3	333	DISCOVERY	7-10-15
	6	322	LODGE 8 FORTUNE	7-10-12
	8	432	SEMPERSON	8-10-4
	7	003	WINDHILL	7-10-5
	6	4/6-	NEVER CHOICE	12-10-5
	6	003	REGENT'S CHANCE	10-10-4

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 013 BUTTON BOOT 9-10-5 *Mr Richards*
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 100 ISANEMOS 11-0 *H Davies*
 014 LAMBERE LAD 11-0 *Mr Turner*
 100 MISS SABRINA 11-0 *Hyde*
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 020 PATUQUE 11-0 *Mr Turner*
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Clint Eastwood

The shadow cast ban on several top players across the new ton, John Wood in a preview

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Letters: 25
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